SHIBUTANI-KUN TOMO NO KAI 4

藤枝とおる

Toru Fujieda

ENIX

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エニックス

stencil comics

★既／刊／好／評／発／売／中★

■B6判

KAMUI 1～4 ―― 七海慎吾

渋谷君友の会 1～4 ―― 藤枝とおる

南国動物楽園綺談 1～3 ―― 斎藤カズサ

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switch 1～2 ―― naked ape

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夢喰見聞 1～2 ―― 真柴 真

BUS GAMER 1 ―― 蜂倉かずや

ラブリー百科事典～眼球フェアリーテイルズ～ 1 ―― 岡野史佳

パパムパ 1 ―― もち

恋よりKissより大嫌い!! 1 ―― 梅澤はな

モーツァルトは子守唄を歌わない 全4巻 ―― 有栖川るい

天然園長児 ―― 七海慎吾

誘惑のビーム ―― こがわみさき

しあわせインベーダー ―― こがわみさき

POCKET HEART ―― 吉崎あまね

マイスターダスト ―― 林ふみの

小娘と忠犬 ―― 勇左野

FLUTEMAN ―― 五森架里

キジムタン ―― 篠原花那

GENERATION OF CHAOS NEXT ～祈りを星に降り注ぐ～ ―― 土方 悠

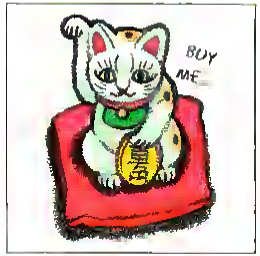
デル・カント・バジェット ―― 坂田靖子

■新書判

ドラゴンクエスト天空物語 1～7 ―― 幸宮チノ

●品切れの時は本屋さんに注文して下さい。

作/者/コ/メ/ン/ト



藤枝とおる

Toru Fujieda

I like the kind of distant feeling between cats and humans. It's like a feeling of freedom. Doing the things you like without interfering with each other, and not having to disguise it when you want to be spoiled. It's probably because they're both equal in the relationship.

SHIBUTANI-KUN
TOMO NO KAI
4
TORU FUJITA

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SHIBUTANI-KUN TOMO NO KAI 4

Toru Fujieda

うちの破壊神♡
我が家の破壊神
ぶっちぎれ
・おんめす 雑種
・数年前家の前で2匹様仔猫が野れていたのを一匹勝手にもらってきた
そんな愛猫
「ボタン」である
ボタンの好きな場所は私の部屋の神棚の中である
元
もう猫が乗ってあるカンジ
クローゼット
トーン棚
ジャンプ
ジャンプ
ジャンプ
ドサッ
ドサッ
ドサッ

スローモーションでお送りしています
ボボボボ
アニメワンシーン
だぁーーっ!!
ドロー
うわーーっ!!
イニアとボボボが
ハクがかかったのは
先日アニメスタッフ上がり
いっしょうけんめい
和傘（あんどうさん）
を描いてくれた
原画さんだった
もちろん
コタツからも
カーペットとも
イニアとも
ボボボが
しかし あまりに
見事な ダイブ
だったために
糸の脱は 勉強り
を 掴り越してしまい
無ひゃ
むんぉ
ごぉ
ごはんも食べた修ごはんになって
つついたボの糸だったとさ
なぜか笑いながらエボタンを
問いつめられたのだ。
あはは
ぎくぅ。
どうとでもかかろ
糸ないんだよ!!
ちょっと面白
かったけど
なし!!
すいません
なぜか僕が
ターゲットに
なってます
プッ
クク
女なのだ?
こうがニコーが表
ボ金になっちゃボボの
ごはんになるんだよ
ボ前 毎日メシ
タカリやがって
ニャー
ゴロゴロ
そんな風に私の部屋には
猫にやられた自分好きを作
してあったカバやかのミニが
たくさん飾ります。
今度コタツもいい自に
しなくてを神棚に作り
ルートを作ってやる予定
です。
END
たにかは
外だって
原稿終了!!
修復できました
猫毛つボエダが 悪いのど 以上!!

Chapter 16
SCROLL OF THE CREAM BREAD IN THE FREEZER

House of the Saku-ras.
It's a little bit further after climbing this very long stone staircase
TAP
Mou!
LET'S RU- THROUGH IT IN ONE BREATH!
YEESH!

SLAM SO
HOT
WATERMELONS ARE STILL THE BEST THING TO EAT IN THE SUMMER.
IF I WERE TEN YEARS YOUNGER, I'D WANT TO BE JUST LIKE YOU GUYS, LETTING SOFT BEADS OF SWEAT SLIP DOWN MY FIRM YOUNG SKIN HAPPILY EXPOSING MY CHEST AND ABS
Manager, please don't put me in the same category as you
MANAGER KAZAMA, PLEASE INSTALL AIR CONDITIONER IN THE OTHER ROOMS, TOO!
FWOOSH
WELCOME BACK ♡
ARGH WHY IS IT SO HOT IN THE MOUNTAINS?
glug glug glug
SLUUURP
OH RIGHT THE MEAT WILL GO BAD
I HAVE TO HURRY AND PUT IT IN THE REFRIGERATOR
dvar

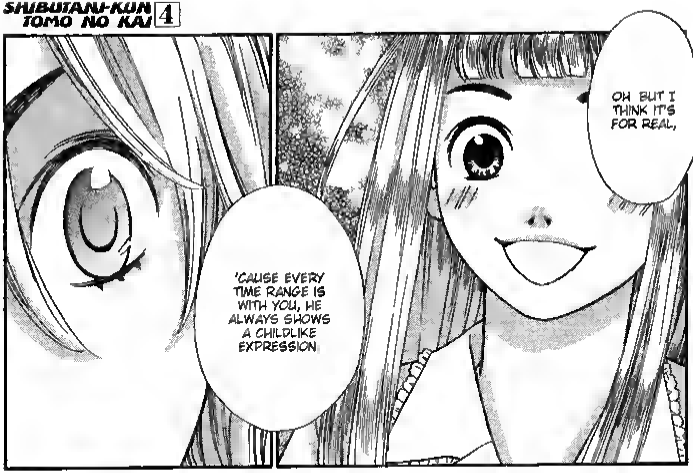
SFX packed full
キリっ！ちリ
HUH?
WHO PUT THESE IN THE REFRIGERATOR?!
make-up water
eye-drops
Tofu
Clothes
THOSE ARE ALL THINGS THAT NEED TO BE COOLED DOWN
IT'S FORBIDDEN TO CLAIM THE REFRIGERATOR FOR YOURSELF!
Sniper
Target practice
Huh?
Boooo
EXCEPT FOR FOOD, DON'T PUT ANYTHING ELSE INTO THE REFRIGERATOR!
ACK!
KYAH

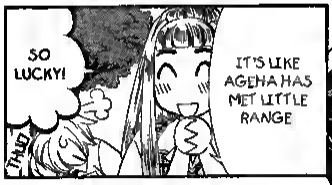
EAT DESSERT, EAT DESSERT!
Waaah!
I'M HUNGRY AGAIN!
STOMP STOMP
RANGE
...and Hina-kun
Sniper
Target practice
AH, I BOUGHT SOME ICE CREAM
EEH,
I WANT THIS ♡
ICE COLD
Tasty Bakery
¥100
RUSTle
HMM?
AGEHA, WANT SOME, TOO?
CRUNCH
BREAD?
WHAT...? EATING IT FROZEN LIKE THAT?!

WHAT?!
I... UMM... I WANT ICED NATTO.
Ahhh!
I WANT TO EAT ICE COLD BREAD, TOO!
ESPECIALLY CREAM BREAD THE CREAM WILL SLOWLY MELT IN YOUR MOUTH IT'S REALLY DELICIOUS!
I WANT RED BEAN CREAM! ♡
Doooh!
It's left! Wwwk...
I'M GOING TO CORRECT ALL YOUR STRANGE BEHAVIORS!
SFX: shiii

LET ME ASK YOU SOME-THING
I made after-bread for lunch today.
TO YOU, WHAT DOES THE TASTE OF HOME TASTE LIKE?
UMM, 'CAUSE YOU LOOK HAPPIER WHEN YOU'RE EATING BREAD THAN WHEN YOU'RE EATING OTHER KINDS OF FOOD
REALLY?
HMM?
THERE SHOULD BE, LIKE, SOME SPECIAL DISHES.
OR DOES YOUR FAMILY ONLY MAKE BREAD?
Ha, Ha!
ACCORDING TO ME, THE TASTE OF HOME IS THE BREAD MADE BY AGEHA!
Because it's really delicious.
REALLY?
Ha ha ha

BUT IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO RETURN HOME SOON
WON'T YOUR FAMILY BE WORRIED?
Hey, that's too much!
AGEHA, YOU'VE BEEN STAYING THERE, TOO!
I'M DOING IT BECAUSE OF YOU!
AGH
UH...
DAMN, I WAS CARELESS AND ALMOST CONFESSED TO HER
B-BE-CAUSE RANGE SAID SOME-THING STRANGE
STRANGE WORDS
Ageha's Flash-back Image
SOMETHING ABOUT HAVING MET ME BEFORE
BUT I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING.
I really don't understand him...


OH BUT I THINK IT'S FOR REAL,
'CAUSE EVERY TIME RANGE IS WITH YOU, HE ALWAYS SHOWS A CHILDLIKE EXPRESSION


SO LUCKY!
IT'S LIKE AGEHA HAS MET LITTLE RANGE

JEEZ
NINA YOU HAVE WAY TOO HIGH AN OPINION OF RANGE.
SIIIGH

A MOMENT WITHOUT ANY DEFENSE,
THEN HE RETURNS TO HIS USUAL CHARISMATIC PRESENCE
IT'S REALLY AMAZING

ARE MANAGER KAZAMA, AND HIRO-KUN ACTUALLY RELATED BY BLOOD?
OH, THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN WONDERING ABOUT
PROBABLY
Nuzzle
All of Hiro-kun's clothes are made by Kazama
AT FIRST,
I THOUGHT HIRO-KUN WAS CHIKA'S CHILD.
HUH?
BUT HIRO-KUN IS FONDER OF KAZAMA.
COULD IT BE THAT KAZAMA AND CHIKA ARE ACTUALLY HUSBAND AND WIFE?
NO, IT CAN'T BE THAT.
HIS WIFE MUST'VE LEFT HIM AND HE ENDED UP TAKING CARE OF THE CHILD ALONE
Widower
THAT'S MORE LIKELY.
HIRO-KUN AND MANAGER KAZAMA DON'T RESEMBLE EACH OTHER AT ALL.
BUT,
By the way, their school uniforms are also made by Kazama.

AGEHA, YOU LOST YOUR BUTTON
HUH?
REALLY?
OH,
Hmm...
LET ME HELP YOU SEW.
...
Wow amazing! You truly are the model housewife.
To be on the safe side, I always carry a sewing kit in my pocket
HUH?
NO, NO NO THERE'S NO NEED I CAN DO IT MYSELF.
DON'T WORRY, I'VE BEEN GOING TO ALL MY HOME EC CLASSES
NO... REALLY... THERE'S NO NEED ...
LET IT BE MY THANKS FOR MAKING THE DELICIOUS BREAD!
THUD
Zoooom

FIRST, STICK THE NEEDLE THROUGH THE MATERIAL FROM INSIDE THE CLOTHES
WAAAH
THE SMELL OF NINA...
IT'S... IT'S OK TAKE IT SLOW
THUMP THUMP THUMP
AH, MY THREAD
SEW SEW
OUCH!
STICK!
OH, GOD.
IT'S SO GREAT! THIS IS JUST...
NINA IS SEWING ON MY BUTTON...
JUST LIKE AN OFFICIAL COUPLE!
A big step forward

Button
I'M... I'M SO SORRY!
STARE
I'M SO USELESS, AGEHA. I THINK IT'D BE BETTER IF YOU DO IT YOURSELF.
NO LET ME TRY AGAIN!
Ha ha ha
NO THIS IS FINE
THIS IS FINE!

DANG, HOW CAN SHE BE SO CUTE?
EVEN THE CLUMSY SIDE OF HER IS TOTALLY CUTE!
I WANT TO PROTECT HER FOREVER!
OH, GOD,
AND TIE IT TIGHTLY AROUND NINA'S LITTLE FINGER!
JUST LIKE THIS
TEN YEARS
TWENTY YEARS
THE TWO OF US WILL LEAN OUR SHOULDERS AGAINST EACH OTHER AND TALK ABOUT THIS MOMENT
PLEASE TAKE THE RED THREAD OF FATE ON MY BUTTON

OH, MY!
I'VE THOUGHT TOO MUCH
I can't
I can't
grin
WHEN IT'S SUMMER, YOU SHOULD SMILE EVEN MORE!
YOU GUYS!
SHOCK
Huh? From that? After time?
It's so hot.
Ah, damn.
WILT
WILT
WILT
People who appeared in Volume Two.

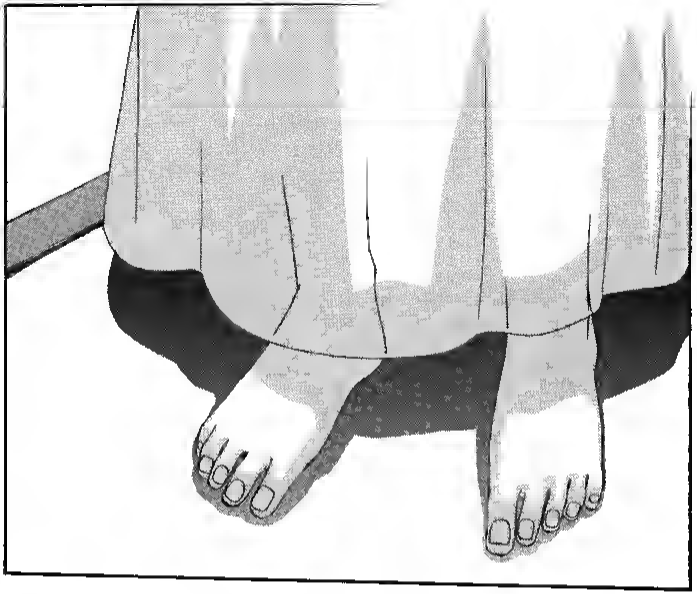
BECAUSE THE WARM BREEZE OF SUMMER...
...TIGHTLY EMBRACES YOU.

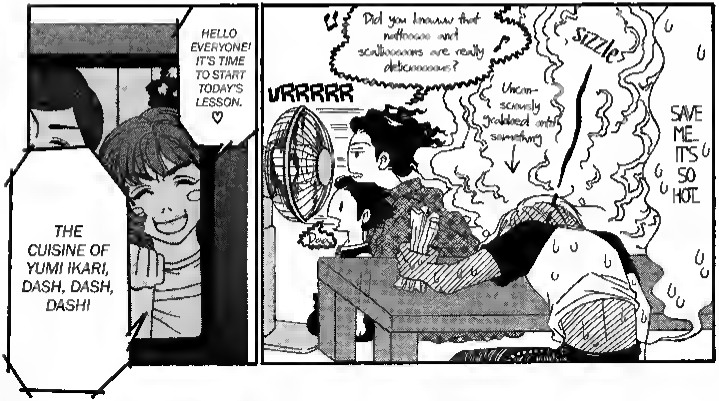
OH,
DAD AND MOM?
YEAH.
IS MANAGER KAZAMA YOUR DAD?
SO, IT'S LIKE THAT.
It's like that.
SO, IF LITTLE DADDY ISN'T HOME, I STILL HAVE DADDY.
HE'S LITTLE DADDY.
RIGHT

HUH?
TWO DADS?
THERE'S MOMMY, TOO—
LIKE MOMMY MAKI, MOMMY YUU, MOMMY KIRA—
W-WAIT A MINUTE HIRO-KUN
Did you misunderstand?
RANGE
RANGE DO YOU KNOW WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP HIRO-KUN AND THE MANAGER HAVE?
FIRST LET'S TALK ABOUT THIS
I DISCOVERED THIS THING IN THE REFRIGERATOR.
32
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?
Sfx rustle

AHHH!
It's the final exam.
AND YOU DARE TALK ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE?
GIVE IT BACK!
EVEN THE WAY AGEHA HIDES SOMETHING HAS THE TOUCH OF A HOUSE-WIFE.
WAAH!
Ayi.
Yee haw!
The forgotten pet of a child who was left in a corner
AI-YI-YI
Seems like they're having fun.
SPIN SPIN
OH, NO!
I FORGOT I LEFT THE CELL PHONE UPSTAIRS.
STEP STEP

HEE HEE
HOW CUTE ♡
OH, RIGHT, LET'S CHECK THE MESSAGE FIRST




HELLO EVERYONE! IT'S TIME TO START TODAY'S LESSON. ♡
THE CUISINE OF YUMI IKARI, DASH, DASH, DASH!
Did you knowww that natttoooo and scallioooons are really deliciooooous?
URRRRR
Uncon-sciously grabbed onto something
SIZZLE
SAVE ME. IT'S SO HOT.

WHAT ARE WE TEACHING EVERYONE TODAY?
TODAY IT'S ASPARAGUS AND MEAT ROLLS
STRANGE
THEY CHANGED THE TEACHER FOR JAPANESE CUISINE
REALLY?
YEAH, BUT I LIKE THE OTHER FEMALE TEACHER NAMED NADESHIKO!
SHE TEACHES A LOT OF THINGS THAT'RE WORTH PAYING ATTENTION TO.
Is this kind of show good?
OH, YEAH, THERE'RE A LOT OF BOOKS WRITTEN BY HER IN THIS HOUSE
NINA?

DASH!
NINA ?
...
FLUSH
UM...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? NINA.
YOU THREW UP?
PREG-NANT?
HOW CAN THAT BE?!
SORRY I'M ALL RIGHT NOW

Did you catch your cold?
DO YOU WANT MEDICINE?
NO, THERE'S NO NEED.
YEAH, THAT'S WHY I TOLD EVERYONE NOT TO EAT IT LIKE THAT...
IT MAY HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY THAT FROZEN BREAD I ATE...
Doesn't seem like you have a fever
IT'S TIME FOR DINNER SOON. DO YOU THINK YOU CAN EAT?
I'M ALL RIGHT, REALLY...
I CAN MAKE PORRIDGE FOR YOU.
PAT PAT
NO, A GIRL HAS TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER BODY!

staaare
sigh
squish squish
Go away! Hurry! Go away!
What?!
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
OK
Call me if there's anything you need!
SO, I'LL GO AND PREPARE DINNER NOW

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE THROWN UP THAT MUCH

Have we
DID IT HAPPEN WHEN WE WERE SMALL?
HEY RANGE
YOU SAID WE'VE MET BEFORE
DID YOU REMEMBER?
NO WAY THINK ABOUT IT YOURSELF
I do mind!
PLEASE, YOU COULD AT LEAST TELL ME HOW LONG AGO IT WAS?!
GIVE ME SOME HINTS!
NO... IT'S JUST THAT NINA SAID THAT IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE YOU WERE LYING TO ME

HINTS. I'VE ALREADY GIVEN YOU HINTS.
YOU HAVE ?
YOU REALLY DID?
YOU DON'T GET IT? TRY HARDER AND THINK.
UUUUUH
ALSO,
AGEHA...

ABOUT THAT PAST STORY. IF YOU CAN REMEMBER IT DURING THE TIME YOU'RE LIVING HERE, I WON'T DO ANY MORE STRANGE THINGS TO YOU!
HUH.
Really?
YEAH, THAT'S A PROMISE.
Well then.
GOOD-NIGHT!
meow
UGH. AHHH ...
SO HOT. HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO SLEEP?
Rise

I'LL GO GET SOME WATER
TAP
DOES A DESIGNER HAVE TO WORK UNTIL HE S EX-
D?
THAT'S WEIRD.
THERE'S STILL A LIGHT IN MANAGER KAZAMA'S ROOM.
I BEG YOU!

I WANT TO STAY TOGETHER WITH EVERYONE!
PLEASE, LET ME STAY HERE FOREVER!
THIS... BUT...
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?

AGEHA?
IT'S BETTER IF YOU TELL HIM NOW, NINA.
WHAT HAPPENED?
NINA ?
I...
WHY DO I FEEL LIKE...

I HAVE A VERY BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.
WELL...
TODAY, YOU SAW THAT THE TEACHER IN THAT COOKING SHOW GOT REPLACED RIG
YEAH.
WHAT ...?
E TEACHER WHO WAS REPLACED WAS MY MOTHER
ALSO...

...MY PARENTS ARE GETTING A DIVORCE.

en·tro·py

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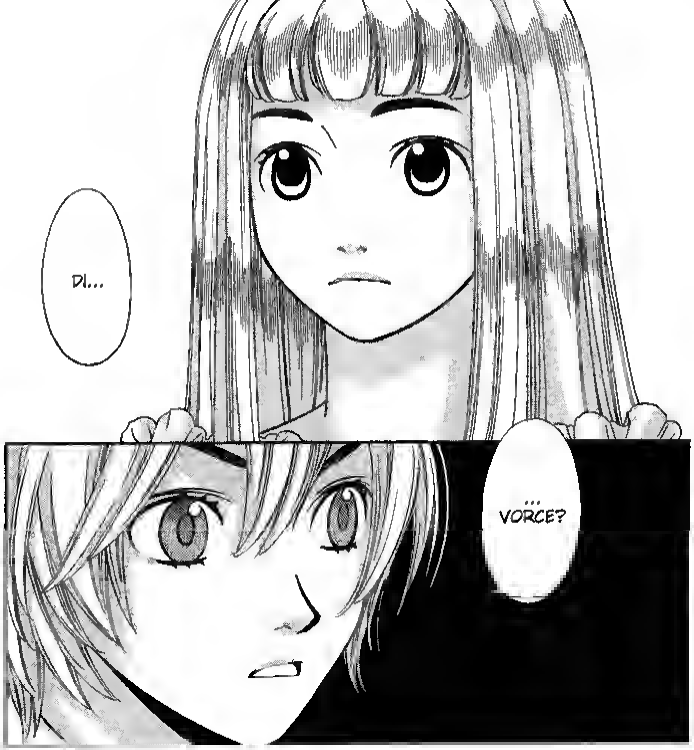
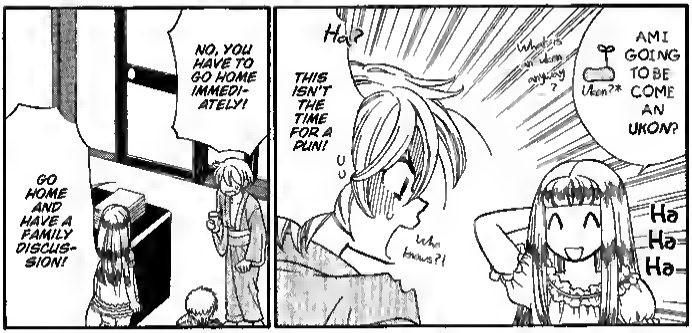
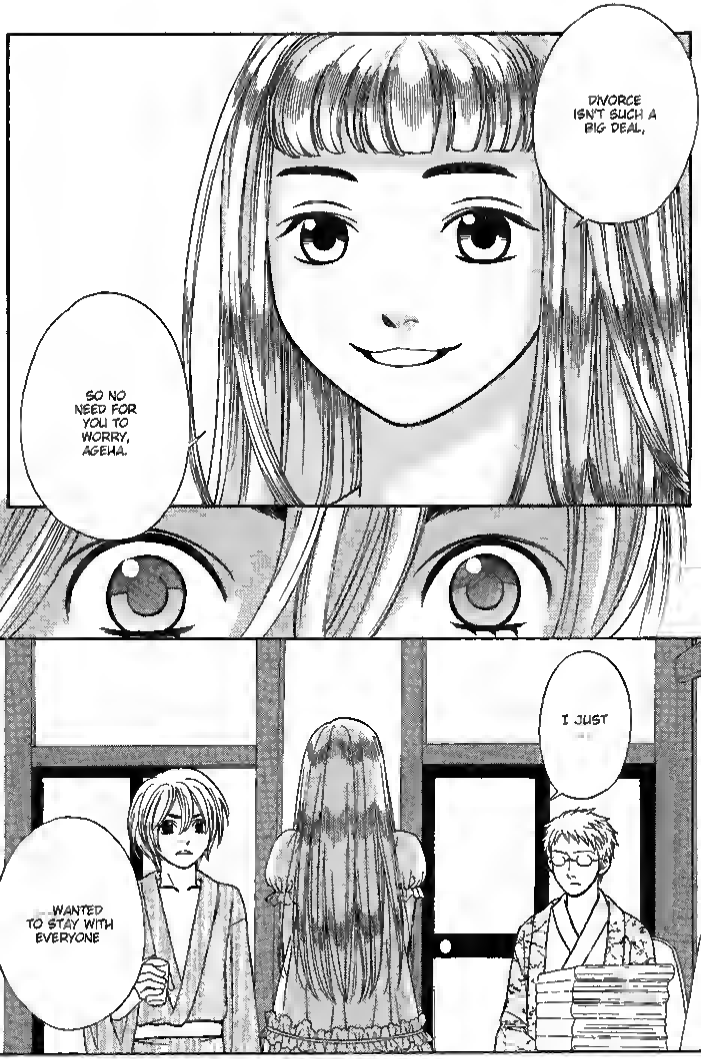
Chapter 17
SCROLL OF THE COOKING TEACHER



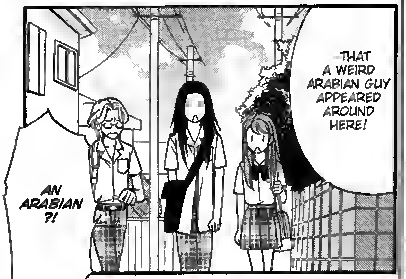

NO, YOU HAVE TO GO HOME IMMEDI-ATELY!
GO HOME AND HAVE A FAMILY DISCUS-SION!
He?
THIS ISN'T THE TIME FOR A PUN!
AM I GOING TO BE COME AN UKON?
Ha Ha Ha

T/N: Nina creates the word "ukon" from the characters for "mistake" and "marriage" to perhaps infer that she's a mistake from her parents' marriage. Since ukon is the Japanese name for turmeric (a plant), she made a pun too.

EH?
Besides, my family doesn't have family accessories
BECAUSE MY DAD HAS ANOTHER WOMAN
I DON'T WANT TO IT'S NO USE
WHY?!
WHAT
ONCE DIVORCED, MY DAD WILL MARRY HER,
AND IT SEEMS I'M GOING TO LIVE WITH THEM
THIS IS GETTING TOO SERIOUS
WHY DIDN'T THEY PROPERLY DISCUSS IT WITH YOU?!
BUT I DON'T KNOW ALL THE DETAILS
IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL


DIVORCE ISN'T SUCH A BIG DEAL,
SO NO NEED FOR YOU TO WORRY, AGEHA.
I JUST
WANTED TO STAY WITH EVERYONE

I HEARD FROM THE CUSTOMERS AT THE STORE...


THAT A WEIRD ARABIAN GUY APPEARED AROUND HERE!
AN ARABIAN ?!

HIDING IN DARK CORNERS BEHIND ELECTRICITY POLES
SO, EVERYONE SHOULD BE CAREFUL!
Because summer is here.
Is that really a reason ?
THAT'S VERY STRANGE, RIGHT? DOESN'T HE SEEM SUSPICIOUS?
HOW'S AGEHA?

I NEVER ...
... KNEW WHAT PROBLEMS HER FAMILY HAD.
I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING AT ALL.

I THINK AGEHA AND NINA REALLY SUIT EACH OTHER!
WHEN I SEE THOSE TWO TOGETHER,
HE'S STILL LIVING IN THAT PLACE
STILL? OH, PLEASE
HE STILL HASN'T CONFESSED TO NINA YET!
THEY LOOK REALLY CUTE
Sigh...
I COULDN'T SLEEP AT ALL
GOOD MORNING!
AH, GOOD MORNING
I'LL HELP YOU MAKE BOXED LUNCHES!
Eh?

A FREE-LOADER? THAT HASN'T BEEN DECIDED YET!
HURRY UP AND GO HOME...!
THERE'S NO NEED TO
SINCE I'M JUST A FREELOADER, IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT I HAVE TO DO EVERY-THING FOR MYSELF!
THAT'S ENOUGH, AGEHA! ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE ALLOWED TO LIVE HERE?!
I can do chores too!
Will you let me stay?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M SAY-ING!
IF IT WERE UP TO RANGE, HE WOULD'VE SAID, "SURE!"
DAMN
ENOUGH! THAT'S DANGER-OUS!
JUST YOU WAIT! I WON'T LOSE TO YOU!!
HOT !!
crackle
crackle
SPARKS

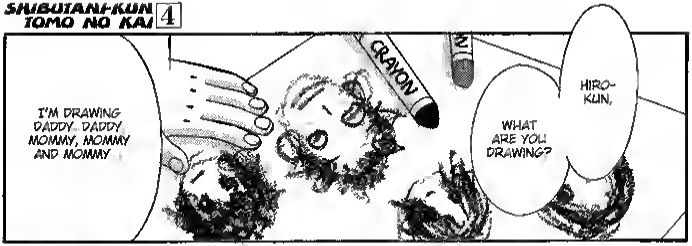
Three of them ...?
GOOD morning my DEAR
THREE BOXED LUNCHES are needed TODAY.
PLEASE take care of it.
MACHINE DOG
rance
WHAT'S THIS WEIRD THING?!
HAH ...
GRRR
RANCE TOLD ME TO GIVE YOU THIS! GOODBYE!
Soccer Cra
tot
2-1
rance
HELLO!

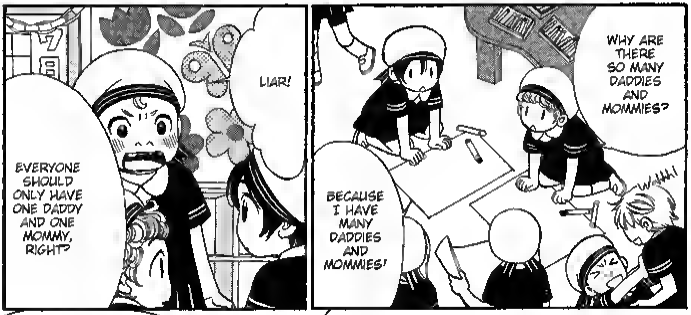
WAAAAAH
WAH! WAVE YOUR HAND !!
RANGE!
IT'S NOT SO BAD TO ATTEND SCHOOL ONCE IN A WHILE—
WHY ARE YOU AT SCHOOL?!
IT'S SO MUCH MORE INTEREST ING WITH RANGE AROUND!
WHEN DID HE HAVE UNDER-LINGS—?
WILL DO !!
THEN, GO BUY CHOCOLATE AND LOLLI-POPS IN ALL FLAVORS FOR ME!
AGEHA, SIR! MISS NINA! GOOD MORNING!
WE DID AS MR RANGE ORDERED AND CLEANED THE DESK!

DON'T GO AROUND TRICKING PEOPLE LIKE THAT...
Hey
I TOLD THE DIRECTOR THAT THE NEXT TIME SHE COMES TO THE CLUB, SHE'LL RECEIVE SOME SPECIAL SERVICE. ♡
PER-MIS-U SION?U
THAT'S WHY I ALREADY GOT PER-MISSION TO VISIT
YOU ONLY CAUSE TROUBLE WHEN YOU'RE AROUND!
REALLY NOW THAT'S SO OUTRAGEOUS ...!!
OH!
OH!
English

Kyaa!
Waiii!
HO HO
SCHOOL ISN'T SUCH A BAD PLACE
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU CAME HERE TO PLAY...
BUT HONESTLY
HE'S PRETTY EYE-CATCHING IN SCHOOL!

DAMN... NOW I FEEL LIKE I'M BECOMING WORSE AS A GUY.
rustle
rustle
rustle
rustle
WHAT WAS
THAT?


CRAYON
HIRO-KUN,
WHAT ARE YOU DRAWING?
I'M DRAWING DADDY. DADDY MOMMY, MOMMY AND MOMMY


WHY ARE THERE SO MANY DADDIES AND MOMMIES?
BECAUSE I HAVE MANY DADDIES AND MOMMIES!
LIAR!
EVERYONE SHOULD ONLY HAVE ONE DADDY AND ONE MOMMY, RIGHT?

WHERE'S YOUR REAL DADDY?
I KNOW! NONE OF THEM ARE YOUR REAL DADDY OR MOMMY, RIGHT... ?!
YOU'RE ACTUALLY A CHILD THEY FOUND AT THE RIVERBANK!

DING DONG
DING DONG
RANGE ...!
KYA!
COME AND HAVE LUNCH WITH US! ♡♡
DO YOU GUYS EAT HERE EVERY-DAY?
YEAH
BECAUSE THERE'S A BIRDHOUSE WHERE YOU CAN FEED THE BIRDS
I WANTED TO USE THIS TIME IN SCHOOL
...TO PERSUADE NINA TO GO HOME
There are too many people around us
NO WAY! I WANNA EAT WITH AGEHA!
THIS GUY

NINA!
Clack
EH?
NINA?
disappeared
WHO ...?
COME OUT HERE!

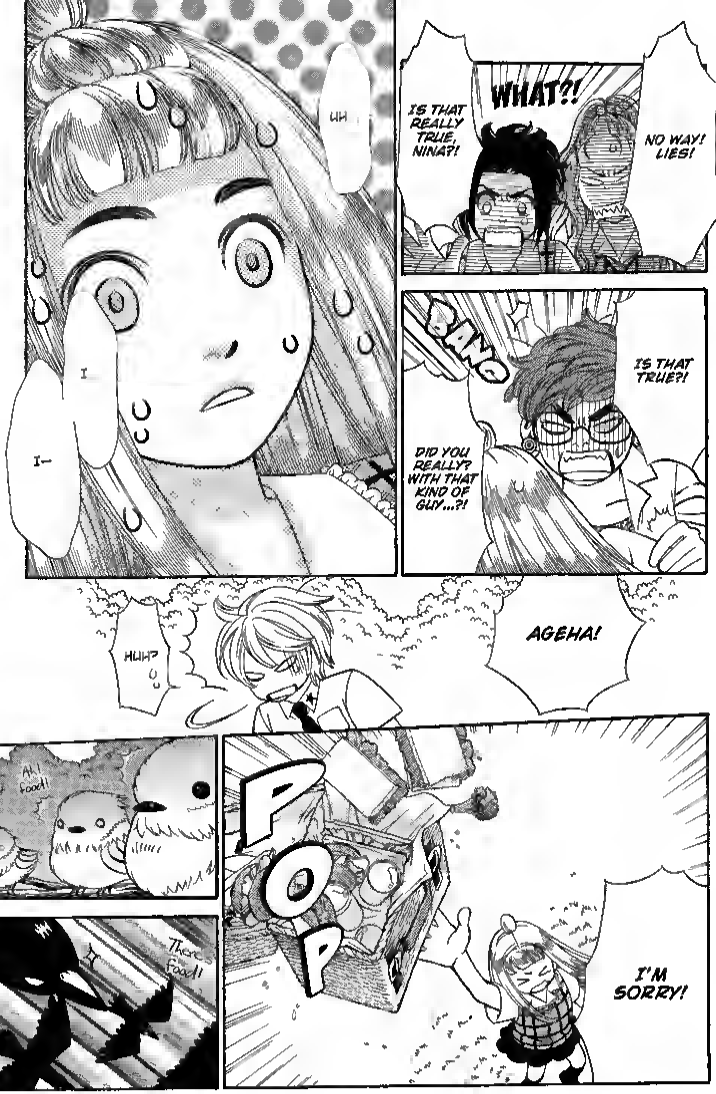
CAUGHT YOU!!
WHO IS THAT?
SHE LOOKS FAMILIAR, DOESN'T SHE?
IT'S PROFESSOR NADESHIKO FROM "CUISINE DASH DASH DASH!"
THEN, THAT MEANS...
SHE'S NINA'S MOTHER?!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN LIVING ALL THIS TIME AFTER RUNNING AWAY?!

YOU CALL HOME ONCE IN A WHILE ONLY TO SAY THAT YOU'RE "STAYING AT A FRIEND'S PLACE..."
AND WHEN YOU FINALLY DO COME HOME, WE TURN AROUND TO FIND THAT YOU'VE RUN OFF AGAIN!
NINA.
DID YOU KNOW HOW WORRIED I WAS?!
DIDN'T ASK HER PARENTS FOR PERMISSION TO STAY WITH US
I'M BRINGING YOU ALONG WITH ME TO SPAIN!
G-GO BACK?
I'VE ALREADY WITHDRAWN YOU FROM SCHOOL!
HAVEN'T I ALREADY TOLD YOU? I ACCEPTED THE OFFER TO WORK AS THE MANAGER AT ANOTHER JAPANESE CUISINE SHOW!
Flap
Flap
COME BACK WITH ME NOW!

...SPAIN?
Kiss!!
Bullfighting!
W-WAIT A MINUTE PROFESSOR NADESHIKO...
HURRY UP
NO
IF WE DON'T HURRY, WE WON'T MAKE IT!
YEAH... EH... ABOUT...
GRIP
OH, MY! YOU'VE WATCHED MY SHOW? I'M HAPPY TO HEAR THAT!
ABOUT SPAIN...?
WHAT RELATION-SHIP DO YOU HAVE WITH MY NINA...?
Glare
UH...
OOPS, I CAN'T LET HER FIND OUT THAT WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER!
LMMMMM
FWSSH

I DON'T WANT NINA TO LIVE SO FAR AWAY!
HUG
HUH?
AFTER ALL, WE'VE BEEN LIVING TOGETHER FOR A WHILE NOW... ♡

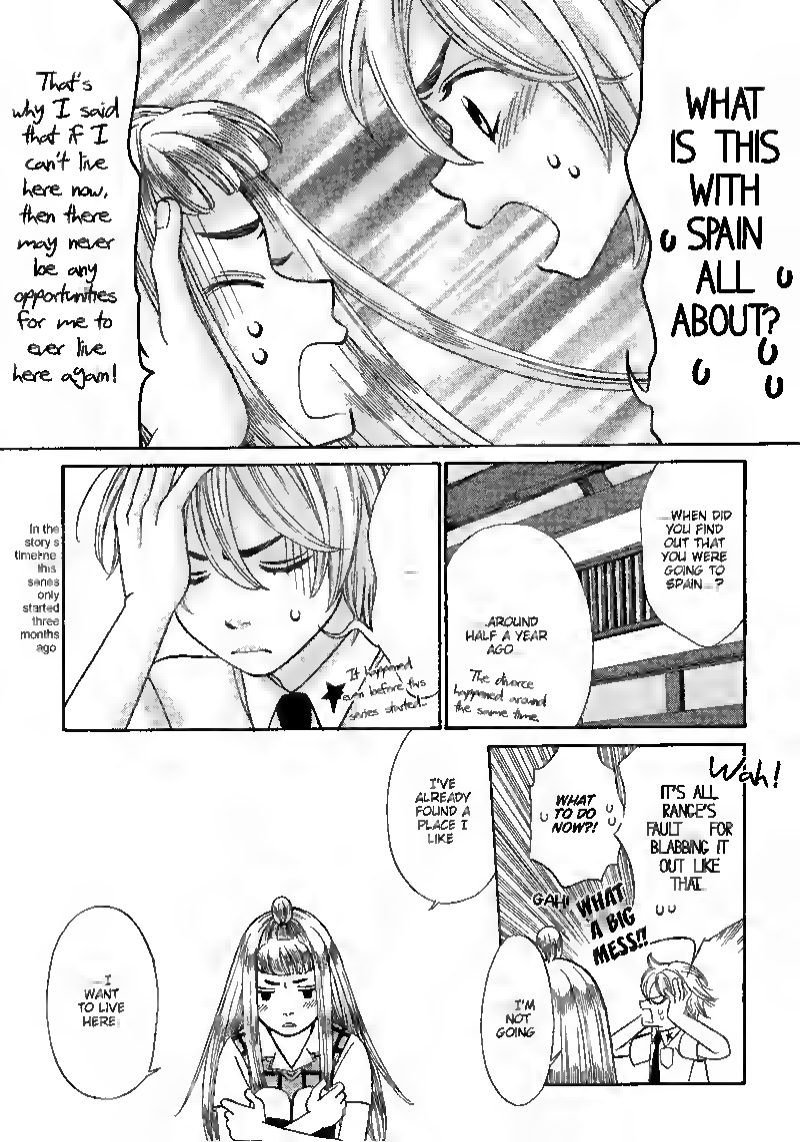
OH? YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
WE'VE BEEN GETTING ALONG EVER SINCE SHE CAME!
LET HER GO! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
RAN—
CHATTER
RANGE AND NINA..
...ARE LIVING TOGETHER?!
WHAT..?
CHATTER


UH
I
I—
WHAT?!
IS THAT REALLY TRUE, NINA?!
NO WAY! LIES!
BANG
IS THAT TRUE?!
DID YOU REALLY? WITH THAT KIND OF GUY...?!
AGEHA!
HUH?
POP
I'M SORRY!
Ah! Food!
There Food!

↑A weird uncle.

DID YOU FIND ME AT THE RIVER-BANK?
MY CLASS-MATES ALL SAID THAT IT WAS WEIRD TO HAVE MANY DADDIES AND MOMMIES!
THEY ALL SAID THAT ONE SHOULD ONLY HAVE ONE DADDY AND ONE MOMMY!
THAT'S WHY THEY ALL SAID I DIDN'T HAVE ANY PARENTS!
SLAM
HIRO, DEAR, LET'S DISCUSS THAT MATTER AT A LATER TIME!
I STILL HAVE WORK TO DO!
HM
WHEN IS THE DADDY WHO WENT TO WORK EARLIER GOING TO COME BACK?
WAS HE THE DADDY WHO FOUND ME?
TELL ME, WHERE DID YOU FIND ME?

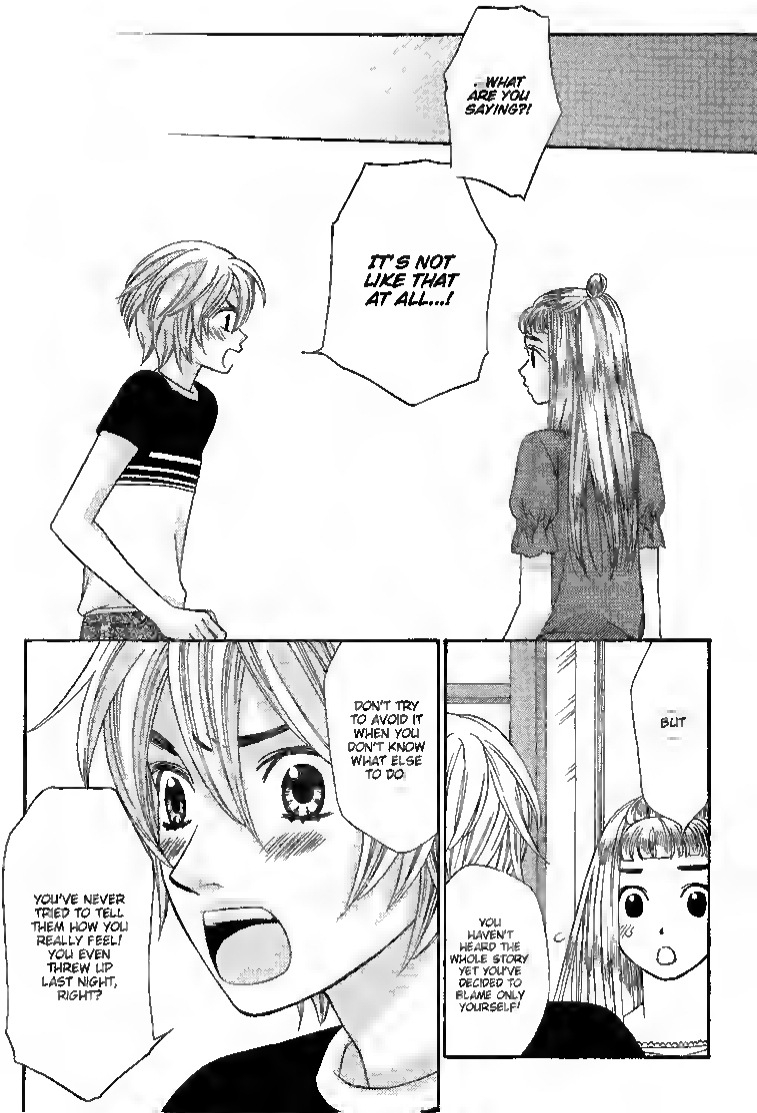
WHOOOSH
WELCOME BA—
patter patter patter patter
What's with Little Darby?
Hm?
Ouch!
My leg
WAIT A MINUTE!
I DON'T WANT TO!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF


That's why I said that if I can't live here now, then there may never be any opportunities for me to ever live here again!
WHAT IS THIS WITH SPAIN ALL ABOUT?
In the story's timeline this series only started three months ago
It happened a month before this series started...
—WHEN DID YOU FIND OUT THAT YOU WERE GOING TO SPAIN—?
AROUND HALF A YEAR AGO...
The divorce happened around the same time.
Wah!
IT'S ALL RANGE'S FAULT FOR BLABBING IT OUT LIKE THAT.
WHAT TO DO NOW?!
GAH! WHAT A BIG MESS!!
I'VE ALREADY FOUND A PLACE I LIKE
I'M NOT GOING
—I WANT TO LIVE HERE

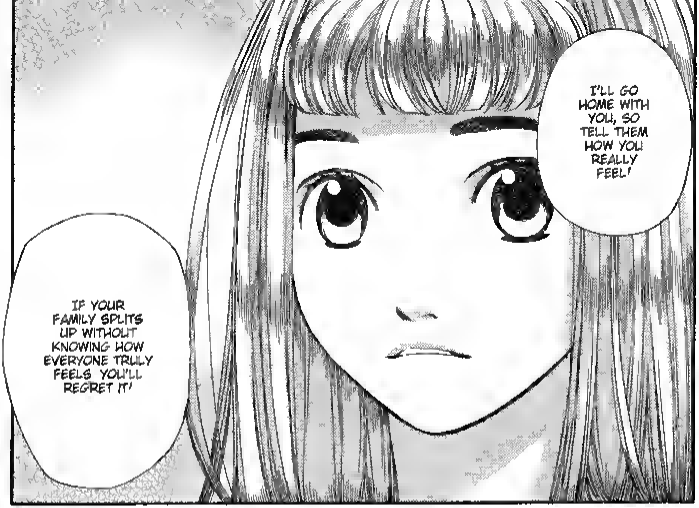
...I REALLY WANT TO LIVE HERE!
...SPAIN...
...IS THAT SO...
MANAGER KAZAMA, WHAT'S WRONG?
You look really pale.
NO... IT'S NOTHING,
BUT HONESTLY, I DIDN'T CLEARLY HEAR WHAT YOU GUYS JUST SAID...
Only that it have run away from home

I THINK LIVING TOGETHER WITH MANY PEOPLE MAKES ONE HAPPY,
THIS HOUSE HAS ALWAYS GATHERED PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE
SO I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING AGAINST NINA LIVING HERE...
BEFORE YOU, PEOPLE HAVE BEEN LIVING HERE FOR SOME TIME...
Including those who ran away from home
HOWEVER, I STILL WISH THAT YOU'D GET YOUR PARENTS' UNDERSTANDING, NINA...
AFTER ALL, DIVORCE AND MOVING OVERSEAS ARE...
NINA, I'LL ACCOMPANY YOU HOME AND HELP SETTLE THINGS
IT'S NO USE
ONCE, WHEN MOM AND I WERE HOME ALONE, I TOLD HER THAT I SAW SPIRITS,
LET'S COME BACK HERE AFTER EVERYONE'S REACHED AN AGREEMENT...!
BUT SHE ONLY CALLED ME AN IDIOT.

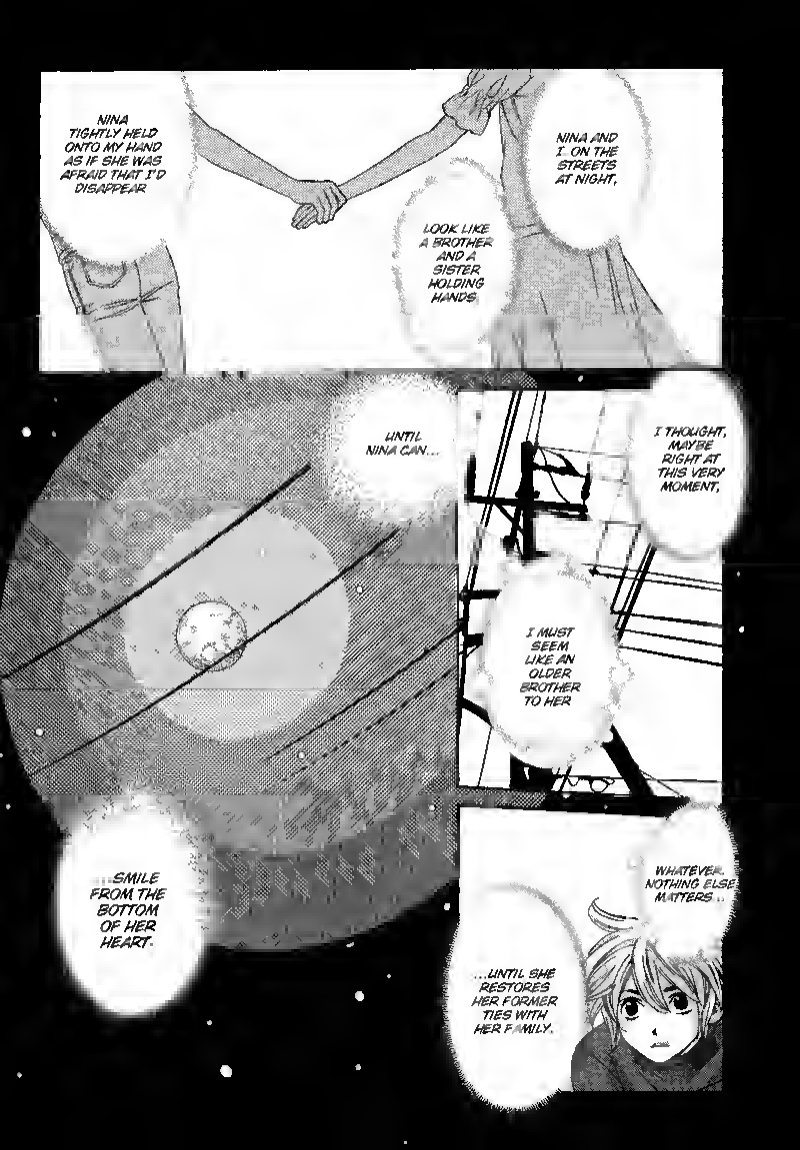
I'M ONLY A STUPID CHILD WHO DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING
THOUGH MOM IS REALLY CAPABLE, I MYSELF STILL CAN'T DO ANYTHING
AND I HAVEN'T EXCHANGED MANY WORDS WITH DAD.
SO HE MUST THINK THAT I'M REALLY TROUBLESOME
ACTUALLY, I'M REALLY AWARE OF THE FACT
THAT I CAUSED THE DIVORCE
THAT'S WHY,
IT'D BE BETTER FOR THEM BOTH IF I STAY HERE


...WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL...!
BUT
YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE WHOLE STORY YET YOU'VE DECIDED TO BLAME ONLY YOURSELF!
DON'T TRY TO AVOID IT WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO DO.
YOU'VE NEVER TRIED TO TELL THEM HOW YOU REALLY FEEL! YOU EVEN THREW UP LAST NIGHT, RIGHT?

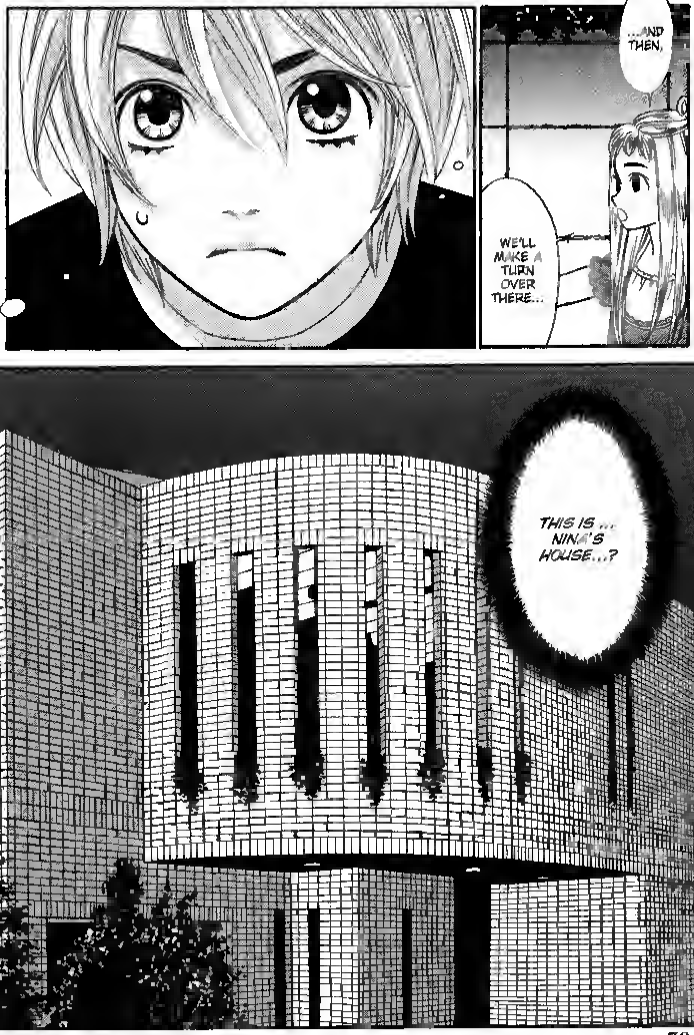
MY LITTLE BROTHER IS LIKE YOU THAT'S WHY I KNOW...
...THE FEELING OF NOT KNOWING WHAT TO SAY OR HOW TO HONESTLY EXPRESS IT...
...WILL CAUSE THE BODY TO REACT IN STRANGE WAYS
MY MOM DIED, SO I CAN'T TURN TO HER ANYMORE,
BUT YOU CAN STILL LIVE WITH ONE OF YOUR PARENTS!
YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, BUT YOU DON'T SAY IT. ISN'T THAT KIND OF SAD?
I KNOW MANY THINGS CAN'T BE CHANGED WITH A FEW WORDS.
BUT DESPITE THEIR DIVORCE, YOUR PARENTS ARE STILL *YOUR PARENTS...!*


I'LL GO HOME WITH YOU, SO TELL THEM HOW YOU REALLY FEEL!
IF YOUR FAMILY SPLITS UP WITHOUT KNOWING HOW EVERYONE TRULY FEELS, YOU'LL REGRET IT!

DON'T BE AFRAID. I'LL ALWAYS BE RIGHT NEXT TO YOU!


NINA TIGHTLY HELD ONTO MY HAND AS IF SHE WAS AFRAID THAT I'D DISAPPEAR
NINA AND I ON THE STREETS AT NIGHT,
LOOK LIKE A BROTHER AND A SISTER HOLDING HANDS.
UNTIL NINA CAN...
I THOUGHT, MAYBE RIGHT AT THIS VERY MOMENT,
I MUST SEEM LIKE AN OLDER BROTHER TO HER
...SMILE FROM THE BOTTOM OF HER HEART.
WHATEVER... NOTHING ELSE MATTERS...
...UNTIL SHE RESTORES HER FORMER TIES WITH HER FAMILY.

SHE'S GOING WITH HER MOTHER TO SPAIN?
...SO, IT'S LIKE THAT, HUH.
DOESN'T MATTER
IT'S BETTER WITHOUT HER AROUND.


...AND THEN,
WE'LL MAKE A TURN OVER THERE...
THIS IS ... NINA'S HOUSE...?

en·tro·py

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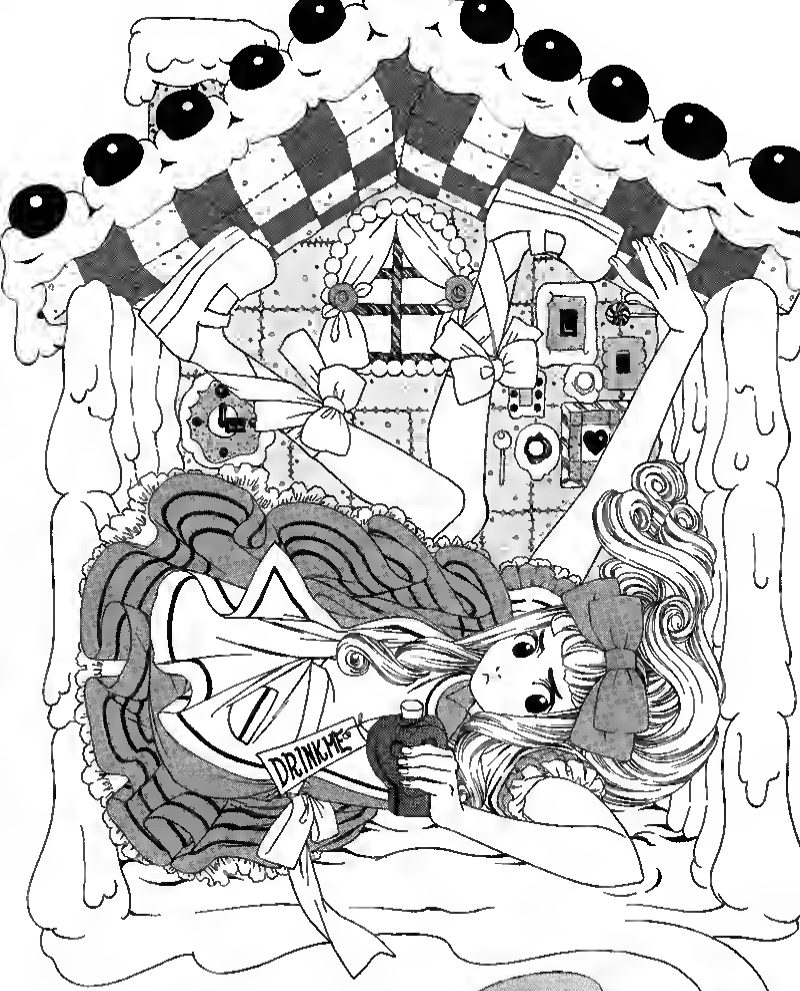


Chapter 18
SCROLL OF THE HUNGER STRIKE

THIS IS...
...MY HOME.

WRRRRRR
THAT LIGHT TURNS ON WHENEVER SOMEONE APPROACHES IT.
BA-DUMP BA-DUMP
IS... IS THAT SO...

shine
HUH?!

WHAT A LUXURIOUS HOUSE...
DON'T TELL ME THAT NINA'S FAMILY IS SUPER RICH?!
IT ONLY LOOKS GRAND ON THE OUTSIDE

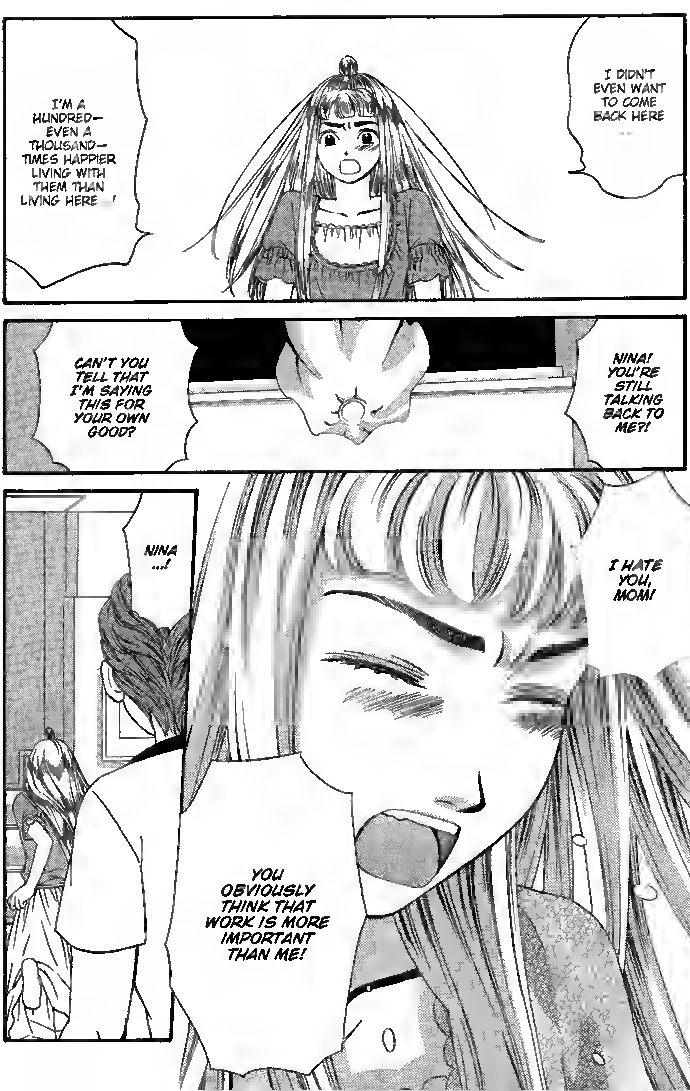
SLAM
!
hides
NINA
DON'T TELL ME THAT'S
NINA
IT IS NINA'S FATHER ...!
NINA ...!!
SWISH

EH...?
HE'S JUST GOING TO PASS BY US...?
SWIFTLY
NINA?
click
YOU'RE BACK?
!
...WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I'VE ALREADY SENT ALL YOUR STUFF TO YOUR PLACE

THE COMPENSATION, ALIMONY, AND CUSTODY OVER NINA ALREADY HAVE BEEN DECIDED
WE'VE ALREADY DISCUSSED ALL THERE IS TO DISCUSS!
I WANT TO DISCUSS SOMETHING.
WHAT'S LEFT TO DISCUSS?
NINA ...!
WHY ARE YOU JUST STANDING THERE?
COME IN QUICKLY!
I—DON'T WANT TO GO TO SPAIN
—NO!
I WANT TO LIVE IN THE HOUSE OF THE SAKURA

WHAT NONSENSE ARE YOU SAYING?
I'M NOT ONLY LIVING WITH RANGE. THERE RE OTHER PEOPLE...
IT'S A REALLY GOOD PLACE...!
GOOD PLACE? DON'T TELL ME
YOU'VE BEEN TRICKED BY SOME ORGANIZATION?
NO ..IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
YOU ARE HER CLASSMATE...
WE'RE NOT WEIRDOS OR DELINQUENTS!
WE JUST LIVE TOGETHER UNDER THE SAME ROOF...
NINA, COME INSIDE!
NO...
!
SO, YOU'RE PART OF THAT BAD ORGANIZATION, TOO?
PLEASE STOP HANGING AROUND MY DAUGHTER AND GIVING HER WEIRD IDEAS!

MOTHER ...!
YOU'RE SUCH A DISOBEDIENT CHILD!
LEAVE NOW, PLEASE!
I DIDN'T RAISE YOU TO BECOME THIS STUPID
LIKE THE INCIDENT YESTERDAY! NO MANNERS AT ALL!
THAT'S ENOUGH
THAT BOY FOR INSTANCE, DON'T THINK I CAN'T GUESS WHAT YOU TWO WERE DOING, HIDING UNDER THE TREES..!
DIDN'T I ALWAYS TELL YOU TO CHOOSE YOUR FRIENDS CAREFULLY?!
STOP BAD-MOUTHING EVERYONE ...!


I DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO COME BACK HERE
I'M A HUNDRED— EVEN A THOUSAND— TIMES HAPPIER LIVING WITH THEM THAN LIVING HERE!
NINA! YOU'RE STILL TALKING BACK TO ME?!
CAN'T YOU TELL THAT I'M SAYING THIS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD?
NINA ...!
I HATE YOU, MOM!
YOU OBVIOUSLY THINK THAT WORK IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ME!

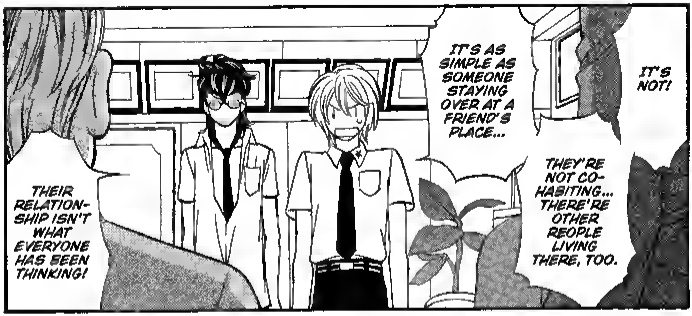
NINA!
COME OUT!
click click
RUN
RUN
RUN
RUN
NINA...
EH
HUH?
...YOU LIKE MY DAUGHTER, HUH.
THIS IS A FAMILY MATTER.
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

YOU SHOULD LEAVE
BEEP
IT'S NOT WORKING. I CAN'T SEND THE MESSAGE
WITHOUT HER BESIDE YOU, IT'S REALLY HARD TO TELL WHETHER SHE'S FINE OR NOT. WE CAN'T BE OF ANY HELP, HUH?
...PROBABLY

FROZEN
HENCE THE DIVORCE!
BUT... I'M STILL WORRIED...
NINA'S PARENTS DIDN'T LISTEN TO EACH OTHER AT ALL...
IF THIS KEEPS UP...
ALL RIGHT... PLEASE CALM DOWN
We're in front of the school gate.
LISTEN, PEOPLE IN MY CLASS HAVE ALSO SEEN A WEIRD ARABIAN MAN...
WHAT INSULT?!
YOU SURE LIKE TO ADD INSULT TO INJURY!
YOU LITTLE— HOW CAN YOU BE SO COLD?!
THAT GUY MUST BE SICK!
Wahhh!
SHOULD WE CALL THE POLICE?
NINA DIDN'T COME TO SCHOOL TODAY...
Call if you want...
Wahhh!
EH?!
WHERE?
AGEHA DID?
YESTERDAY HE WAS PEEKING AT THE SCHOOL GROUNDS
What...
Really...?
ARABIAN MAN?
I'VE SEEN ONE, TOO...
Someone dressed like one
THE ONE I MENTIONED LAST TIME?
So it's true

...HE'S HERE! ARI-HARA!
WHERE IS NINA?
THAT'S SO SURPRISING! I NEVER WOULD HAVE THOUGHT NINA WAS SOMEONE LIKE THAT!
SHE WASN'T ABLE TO EAT...
TODAY'S PACKED LUNCH AFTER ALL...
EH— What's wrong?
NINA'S COHABITING WITH RANGE!
OH, NO! THE MISUNDERSTANDING HASN'T BEEN CLEARED UP YET!
THAT'S NOT ALL THERE IS TO IT...!
BUT THEY ARE LIVING TOGETHER, RIGHT?
THIS IS THE JUICIEST GOSSIP AT SCHOOL!
YES, WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER!
LIVING TOGETHER UNDER THE SAME ROOF!
nudge

LIVING TOGETHER WITH NINA AND PLAYING ALL KIND OF GAMES!
RANGE...!
You're still saying—!
RANGE! WHY DID YOU CHOOSE WORDS THAT CAN CAUSE PEOPLE TO MISUNDERSTAND?!
I NEVER SAID THEY WERE "CO-HABITING"!
WHEN
WHEN
WHEN
DID I?
GRUMBLE
HOW INTENSE!
MY GOD! WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "PLAY...?!"
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE THAT DAMN NINA!
Principal's Office
IS THAT RUMOUR TRUE?
ARIHARA, COME HERE FOR A MOMENT
SLIDE
RANGE —!!


IT'S NOT!
IT'S AS SIMPLE AS SOMEONE STAYING OVER AT A FRIEND'S PLACE...
THEY'RE NOT CO-HABITING... THERE'RE OTHER PEOPLE LIVING THERE, TOO.
THEIR RELATION-SHIP ISN'T WHAT EVERYONE HAS SEEN THINKING!

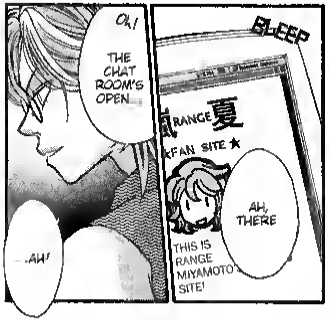
THESE DAYS, CASES OF STUDENTS RUNNING AWAY FROM HOME AND ELOPING ARE NUMEROUS. IF WE DON'T SET AN EXAMPLE AT THIS SCHOOL, IT'LL CAUSE PROBLEMS
SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO LIVE WITH PEOPLE OF THE OPPOSITE GENDER
BUT... A GIRL HER AGE...

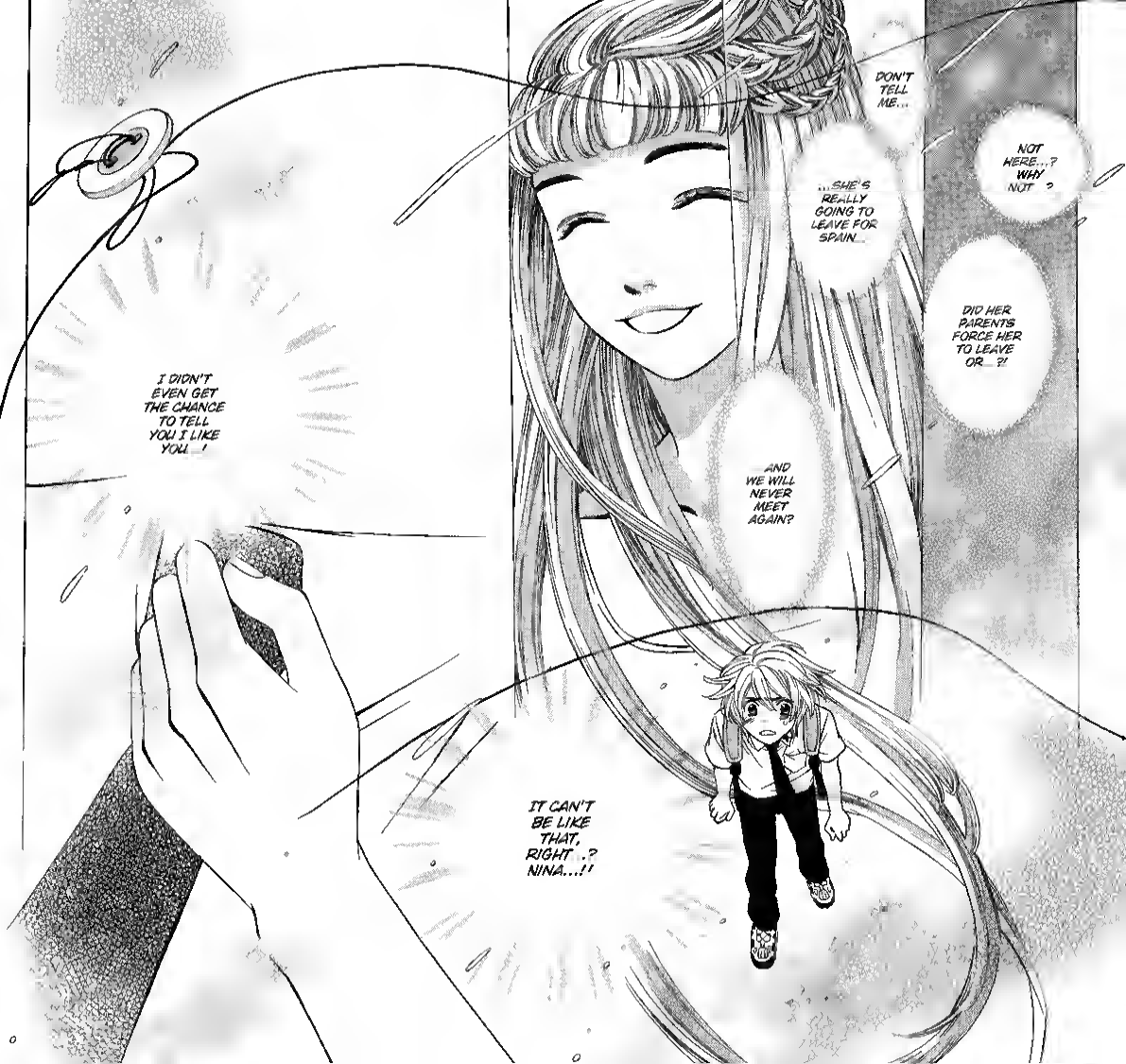
BUT IT'S NOT...
HER MOTHER IS LEAVING THE COUNTRY DUE TO WORK,
SO TODAY SHE CONTACTED ME...
...AND FINALIZED THE DOCUMENTS FOR NINA TO DROP OUT...
...!
HOWEVER, I WON'T PUNISH NINA HINATA THIS TIME

DROP OUT ?
I KNOW SHE MENTIONED IT YESTERDAY.
BUT HOW CAN THAT BE ?
NINA'S NOT COMING TO SCHOOL ANYMORE?!
EXCUSE ME... IS NINA HERE?
DING
DONG
SHE DOESN T LIVE HERE ANYMORE.
PLEASE LEAVE
THEN ... CAN YOU TELL ME HER NEW ADDRESS?
NO CAN DO

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, DIDN'T NINA SAY THAT SHE MADE A PERSONAL WEBSITE FOR RANGE?
HOW ABOUT WE GO CHECK IT?

PLEASE DON'T FALL INTO SUCH DESPAIR!
Uh... uh...
What...
Nina hi
GROW UP, BRO
Oh, how I want to just ditch him like that


Oh,!
THE CHAT ROOM'S OPEN
BLEEP
RANGE 夏
FAN SITE
AH, THERE
THIS IS RANGE MIYAMOTO'S SITE!
...AH!

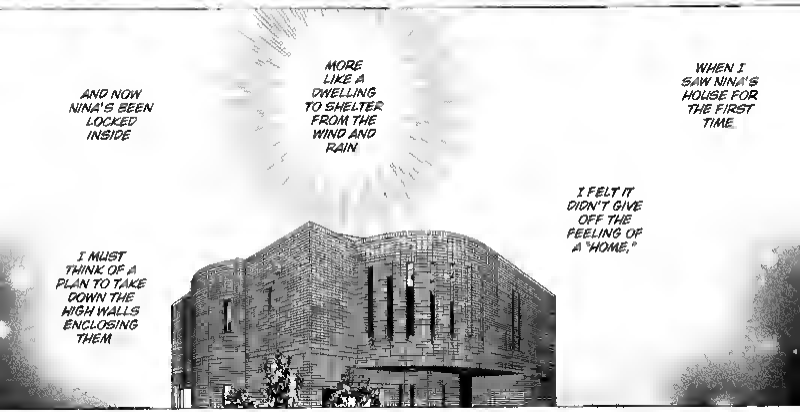

I DIDN'T EVEN GET THE CHANCE TO TELL YOU I LIKE YOU...!
IT CAN'T BE LIKE THAT, RIGHT...? NINA...!!
...AND WE WILL NEVER MEET AGAIN?
DID HER PARENTS FORCE HER TO LEAVE OR...?!
NOT HERE...? WHY NOT...?
...SHE'S REALLY GOING TO LEAVE FOR SPAIN...
DON'T TELL ME...

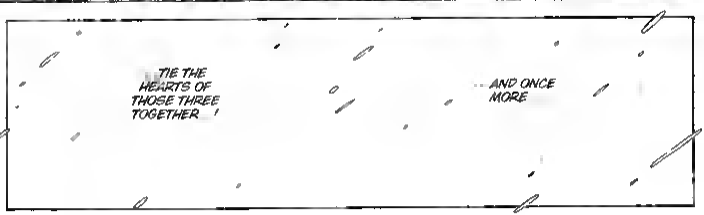
NINA?!
FW
OOP
IT'S "STORM-BERRY!"
THAT'S NINA'S NICK!
WHY ARE YOU YELLING ?!
AKANE! HURRY AND REPLY!
AND "WHERE ARE YOU NOW?!" HURRY!
TELL HER IT'S ME! ASK HER, "YESTERDAY, WHAT HAPPENED AFTERWARDS?"
NINA? IS THAT NINA?
WHAT TO DO?
"STORM-BERRY" IS ASKING "WHO IS IT?"
SAKURA CHAT ROOM!
Name : Ageha
MSG :
Chatting space (2 people) StormBerry★ Ageha★
Automatic response 30 seconds Currently 15 messages
<StormBerry> ah! ageha! cool!!
<Ageha> nina? ageha here
akane's typing
<Ageha> hey

THIS CAN'T CONTINUE WE MUST THINK OF A PLAN...
MY CELL'S IN MY BAG WHICH I LEFT OUTSIDE 2 4GOT 2 BRING IT, UR N I THINK MY MOM'S CHECKING THE CALLS
I'M @ HOME BUT LOCKED IN MY ROOM LUCKY MY COMP'S HERE
IDK WHAT 2 DO ANYMORE I SAID SOME HARSH THINGS 2 HER ALREADY
I WOULDN'T HAVE LET YOU GO HOME IF I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN!
IN YOUR ROOM? I WAS TOLD YOU'RE NOT LIVING THERE ANYMORE!
DO YOU WANT ME TO TRY YOUR HOUSE AGAIN?
How about I move over and let you type instead?
OH CUZ MOM WON'T LET ME C U
I THINK IT'S BETTER IF U DON'T SHE WON'T LISTEN 2 ANYONE N I'M NOT CONFIDENT ENOUGH 2 TALK 2 HER AGAIN ABOUT IT
WHY NOT? DIDN'T YOU CLEARLY EXPLAIN THINGS TO HER?
Ageha is a genius at family matters but clueless about computers
NO USE I'VE BEEN LOCKED IN HERE SINCE LAST NITE
YOU CAN'T !
HUNGRY? YOU HAVEN'T EATEN?
WHAT TO DO
CUZ I'M STUCK HERE
ATE NOTHING SINCE YESTERDAY
AGEHA
IT'S OK I CAN USE MY HUNGER STRIKE AS A FORM OF PROTEST
I'M SOOOOO HUNGRY

THERE'S A RECIPE FOR A WESTERN DISH THAT LOOKS LIKE A KIND OF BREAD
NANASE! NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO READ BOOKS ABOUT CUISINE!
NINA'S MOTHER WROTE THIS BOOK, SO I WAS WONDERING IF IT MAY GIVE US SOME CLUES ON WHAT TO DO.
HAVE YOU READ THIS COOK-BOOK?
Teacher Deshiko's
MEALS
Japanese Cooking Made Easy
EVEN THOUGH IT'S ABOUT JAPANESE CUISINE, WESTERN CUISINE IS IN HERE TOO—
"NINA, IT SEEMS LIKE YOU REALLY LIKE BREAD."
"REALLY?"
NANASE!
THAT'S RIGHT! NINA LIKES TO EAT BREAD A LOT—!
LET ME TAKE A LOOK AT THAT BOOK—!

NINA, DON'T FEAR!
GIVE ME SOME TIME, AND I'LL COME UP WITH A PLAN!
MAYBE THIS RECIPE...
...COULD TRIGGER SOME FORGOTTEN MEMORIES.


AND NOW NINA'S BEEN LOCKED INSIDE
MORE LIKE A DWELLING TO SHELTER FROM THE WIND AND RAIN
WHEN I SAW NINA'S HOUSE FOR THE FIRST TIME
I FELT IT DIDN'T GIVE OFF THE FEELING OF A "HOME,"
I MUST THINK OF A PLAN TO TAKE DOWN THE HIGH WALLS ENCLOSING THEM


...TIE THE HEARTS OF THOSE THREE TOGETHER...!
...AND ONCE MORE

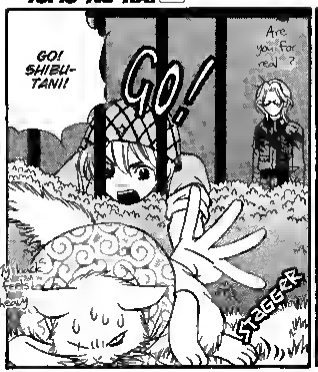
HIRO'S OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW THE TRUTH. ISN T IT ABOUT TIME TO TELL HIM?
NO,
I THINK IT'S BETTER TO WAIT A LITTLE LONGER.
YES
BESIDES, TO SUDDENLY TELL HIM NOW IS...
OUR RELATIONSHIP JUST STARTED TO GET BETTER. IF I TELL HIM NOW HE'D RESENT US FOREVER.
YEAH,
I KNOW... BUT
WHAT TO DO...?
IDIOT!!
YOU ALWAYS JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS AND SCARE YOURSELF HALF TO DEATH!
BUT... BUT...

click
HUH?!
STARE
You want studying for classes? Here's some!
DON'T TRY TO FOOL ME...
LITTLE DADDY IS TALKING ABOUT STUFF FROM WORK!
HIRO, PLEASE GO OUTSIDE AND PLAY!
DASH
I KNOW HOW TO CALL BACK THE LAST CALLER
BEEP
MOMMY MAKI, WHERE'RE MY REAL DADDY AND MOMMY?!
WHY DO I HAVE SO MANY DADDIES AND MOMMIES?! WAS I FOUND BY THE RIVERBANK?
AH IT'S MOMMY MAKI'S VOICE I KNEW IT!
WAH! HIRO?!

THE PERSON YOU RE TRYING TO CALL IS CURRENTLY UNAVAIL ABLE
HUMPH!
I'M ANGRY NOW!
leap
leap
FLOAT
grab
AH!

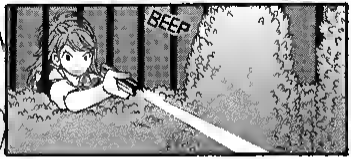
DUDE, YOUR CLOTHES
ARE REALLY LONG.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
UH, I'M ANGRY NOW, SO I'M GOING TO FIND MOMMY MAKI.
BY YOURSELF?
PAP PAP
USUALLY LITTLE DADDY TAKES ME THERE,
BUT HE'S AVOIDING MY QUESTIONS, SO I SNEAKED OUT!
SHHH!
OH.

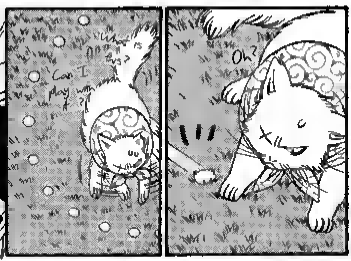
THEN,
I'LL GO WITH YOU
GOOD
EVERYONE'S PREPARED
LET'S GO
OUR MISSION IS TO SEND NOURISHMENT TO NINA'S ROOM— OPERATION SHIBU-BATTLE!
"SHIBU-BATTLE"?
Why must we dress up like this then?
FIRST, WE TIE THE PACKAGE OF FOOD FOR NINA TO THE BACK OF SHIBUTANI!
FSCH!

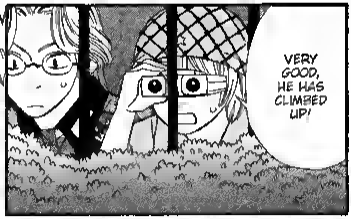

GO! SHIBU-TANI!
Are you for real?
GO!
My voice seems to keep getting heavy
STEER

FINALLY, SHIBUTANI WILL CLIMB UP THE TREE, JUMP THROUGH THE WINDOW, AND ACCOMPLISH THE MISSION!
NEXT, WE PUT HIM IN THE GARDEN IN FRONT OF NINA'S ROOM.
THEN, FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GARDEN, KAORI AND NANASEI WILL USE FLASHLIGHTS TO GUIDE SHIBUTANI TOWARD THE TREE

SHINE

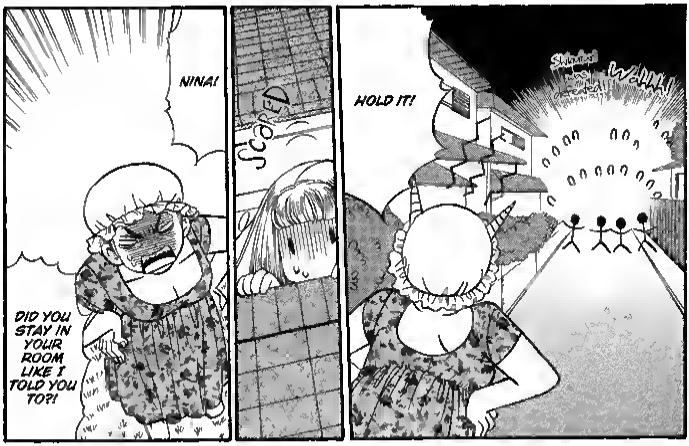

BEEP

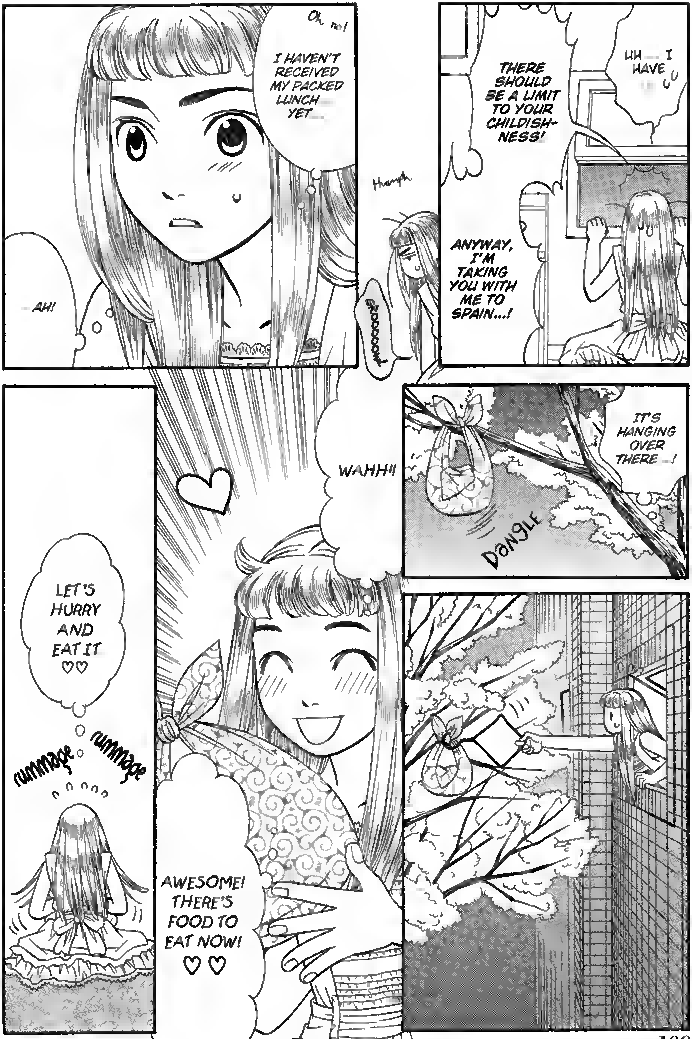

Can I play?
Oh?

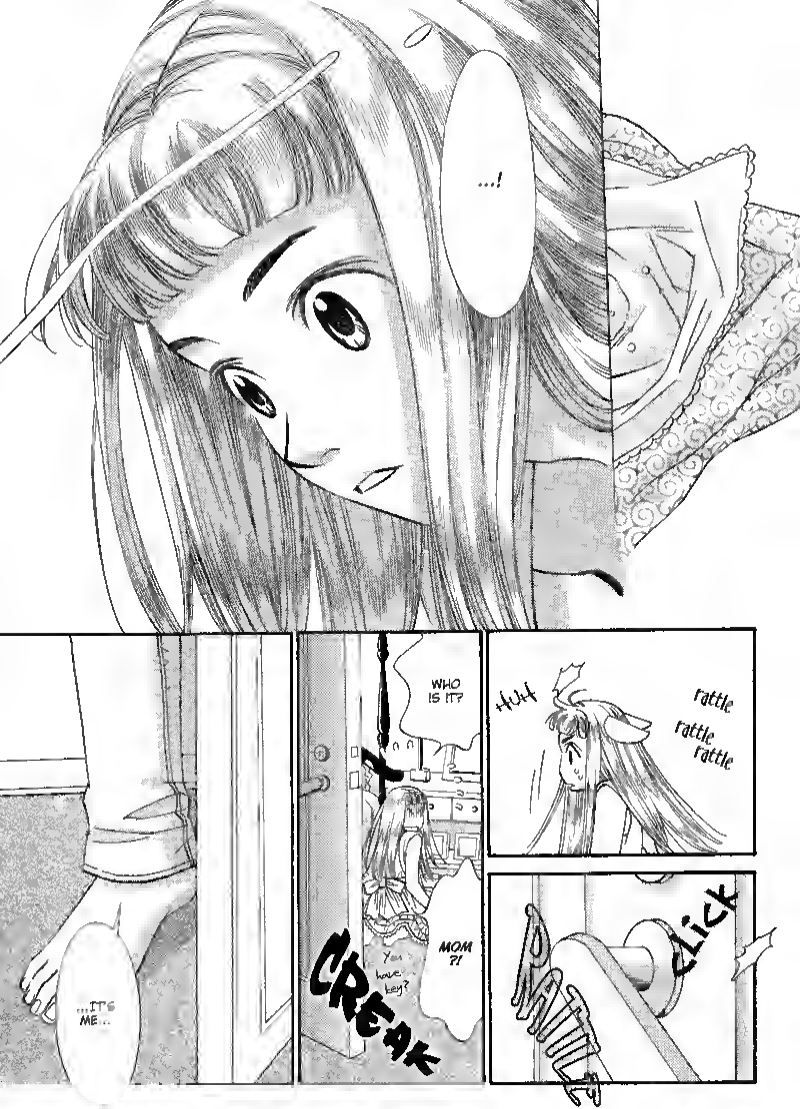

Twish
VERY GOOD, HE HAS CLIMBED UP!

WHHHHHHSSSSSSHH
Waahhhh
HUH?! WHAT'S THAT? WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
DON'T TELL ME WE TRIGGERED AN ALARM AND THE POLICE ARE..?!
WHO'S HIDING OVER THERE?!
Slam
WHO?!
NOW WILD-CATS...!
SHI-BU-TAN!..!
HHHSSSSS
WAH.. DAMN.
Is that Nina's mother?
YOU AGAIN?! WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS HANGING AROUND MY NINA?!

CRASH
GET OUT OF HERE!


NINA!
DID YOU STAY IN YOUR ROOM LIKE I TOLD YOU TO?!
SCARED
HOLD IT!
Shrieking
WHHH!


Oh, no!
I HAVEN'T RECEIVED MY PACKED LUNCH YET...
AH!
Hmph
THERE SHOULD BE A LIMIT TO YOUR CHILDISHNESS!
ANYWAY, I'M TAKING YOU WITH ME TO SPAIN...!
UH... I HAVE...
GRRRRR
IT'S HANGING OVER THERE...!
DANGLE
WAHH!!
LET'S HURRY AND EAT IT ♡♡
rummage rummage
AWESOME! THERE'S FOOD TO EAT NOW! ♡♡


...!
rattle
rattle
rattle
HUH
WHO IS IT?
MOM?!
You have key?
CREAK
...IT'S ME...
click

COME, LET'S GET OUT TOGETHER ♡
AH, OK!
HOW COME? HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?
LIKE HOW PEOPLE NORMALLY DO→ THROUGH THE FRONT GATE ♡
EH?
IN YOUR DREAMS
I LIED!
I SNEAKED IN HERE
..RANGE!

I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU SOMETHING
YOU KNOW NOW YOU'RE ALWAYS CHASING AFTER ME LIKE A MANIAC?
ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME YOU STOP?
AT THE SAME TIME
WE RETURNED TO THE HOUSE OF THE SAKURA
AND FACED ANOTHER NEW TROUBLE.

CAN'T FIND HIM ANYWHERE HUH
AH, YOU GUYS ARE BACK! DID ANY OF YOU SEE HIRO?
EH? NO SHOULD WE?
HIRO HE'S
...MISSING...!

Katydid
Panarama Suzu
Sidney silver_deeds
Pollux wall flower
xengie Flump
mayairy-
active
happybobo321
Cream Puffs eunhYe
Freshy funnypages
Galletita gorelab ink
keppim p00k Lynite
Leen-chan Micho
Luppy
MegKF
terracannon876
riseabove77 JLindgren
Medea Saga pryxir
sekushibijin84
Sophendo | bot
Lighter
admins
barbapapa
flying robots
bukuwawa petr
mangauniverse
Vanderguard
jojo da crow
Friends
Forever
vio55555
Digitalr Death
kalekala cracken
sioc shadowfoxx
cjd fooJin
Levin
super
active
chiaki
dahippo
toshirodragon
narwhaltortellini
icassop Kavic
Lui
retired
Ymgael Yoyo
Yehiko Haisa
Kimheami
Knights4
Kakaro-chain
Kyuuei Lia
Sekiehun chaktijoeleann
silverbell1979
Michiler
Mary Gleason
MaxMaxMax Oyling
Remy mymdrx Nomad_Saul
Moyday Mikuru Moonies Tiger
SakuraMilan SerapHimWed Tys
LevanterFewerXII Magnum SkriderX
Sukeyukkey Sunny Shikure Spud
Skyarrul830 Tragicdragdem
Usagiina Vanessa Twinpop
Tetachen Vivisumeko
vis-a-vis

en·tro·py

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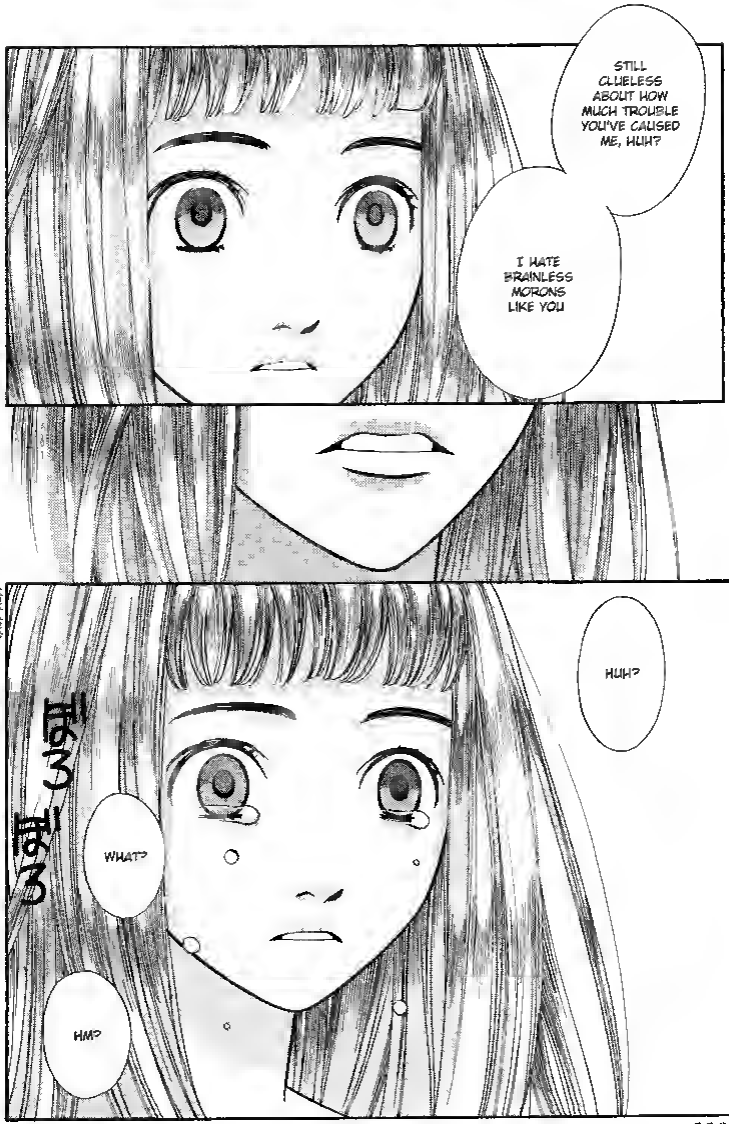
Chapter 19
SCROLL OF THE PERSON WHO FED ME

WE JUST WENT BACK HOME ONCE
HE DISAPPEARED AFTER HAVING DESSERT, SO I THOUGHT HE WAS PLAYING IN THE BACKYARD.
Z
H
H
WHAT ABOUT RANGE?
HE SAID HE'S GOT WORK TODAY.
HIRO?
I SAW HIM THIS AFTERNOON, WALKING AWAY WITH A MAN DRESSED AS AN ARAB
What to do? What should I do, and how?!
IF HE'S GOING SOMEWHERE FAR AWAY, I'M SURE HE'D TELL ME, WOULDN'T HE?!
HE MUST BE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

WEIRD
ARABIAN MAN?
AN ARAB?
DON'T TELL ME IT'S THAT WEIRD ARABIAN MAN WE'VE HEARD ABOUT?
THAT ARABIAN MAN MUST WANT TO BRING HIRO BACK TO HIS OWN COUNTRY SO HE CAN LOOK AT HIM...!
fu fu fu fu
...I UNDERSTAND NOW
THEY MUST KNOW ABOUT HOW CUTE HIRO IS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES NOW, TOO
MANAGER KAZAMA?!
YOU WANT TO LEAVE ME BEHIND, JUST LIKE THAT? THERE'S NO WAY I'D LET YOU!
IS HE CONFUSED?!
RANGE?

WHAT'S WRONG?
rise
HEY
THAT'S THE BREAD AGEHA MADE FOR ME...

chomp
RANGE?
YOU STILL DON'T GET IT?
THESE THINGS
ARE WASTED ON YOU
I'LL BE COMPLETELY CLEAR, THEN, SO YOU WON'T POSSIBLY MIS-UNDERSTAND.


STILL CLUELESS ABOUT HOW MUCH TROUBLE YOU'VE CAUSED ME, HUH?
I HATE BRAINLESS MORONS LIKE YOU
HUH?
ぽろぽろ
WHAT?
HM?

AND FORMING THE BAND
JOINING THE ALLIANCE
DIDN'T WE HAVE FUN TOGETHER WITH EVERYONE?
BUT...
BUT
WEREN'T THOSE HAPPY THINGS?!
DIDN'T I ALREADY TELL YOU?
EVERYTHING WAS A GAME.
UNFORTUNATELY,
I'VE GOTTEN TIRED OF IT.

flap flap flap
TSUHH
RANGE
I'M LEAVING
BYE-BYE

A COUPLE OF HOURS EARLIER.
CRAW
CAW CAW
Lost...
?
NOPE.
DYANG
I DON'T SEE MOMMY MAKI'S HOME
THEN,
DO YOU RECALL THIS PLACE?
walk walk
DO YOU SEE THE HOUSE OF THE MOMMY YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT?
PUNT

HEY, I NEED TO PEE.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT MAN WAS KINDA STRANGE
REALLY,
THIS CHILD IS MORE LIKE THE TWO IN THE PHOTOGRAPH
HUH.
THERE'S AN ADDRESS WRITTEN ON THE PHOTO-GRAPH
HUH?!
I can't hold it! Pee!
Hold on a little!
Phew. I'm done.
HIRO
THE ADDRESS WRITTEN ON THE PHOTO-GRAPH IS NEARBY. DO YOU WANT TO GO THERE?
I DO!

HUH?
pump pump
DO YOU RECOGNIZE THIS PLACE?
slam
I REMEMBER THIS PLACE!
WEIRD OH!
OH?
EXCUSE ME, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
All that knocking is pretty annoying.
REALLY STRANGE
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE ANYONE'S IN THERE

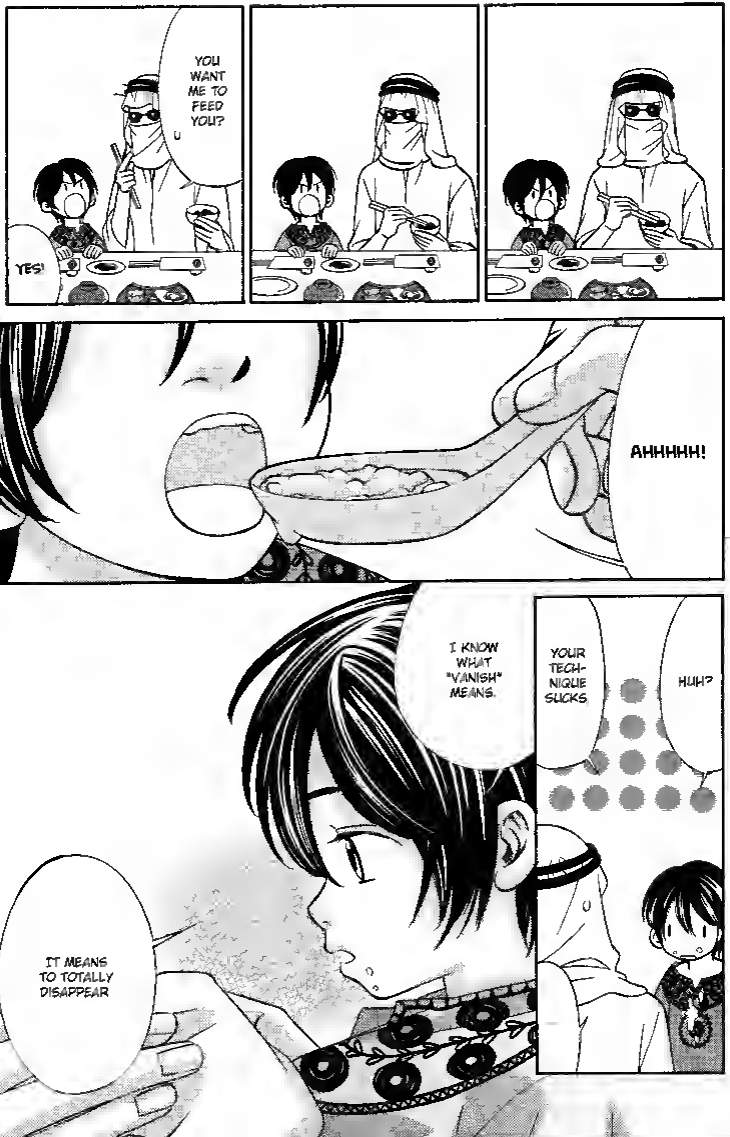
PARDON ME, BUT ARE THESE TWO LIVING HERE?
HMM?
OH, THE OOTSUKIS THEY USED TO LIVE HERE
EVEN AFTER THREE WHOLE YEARS NO ONE KNOWS WHAT FUNNY BUSINESS THEY WERE INVOLVED IN
FUNNY BUSI-NESS?
HUH?
YOU DON'T KNOW?
THEY SUDDENLY VANISHED TO SOME PLACE,
LEAVING BEHIND A CHILD AROUND THE SAME AGE AS THIS ONE.

HUH
THIS CHILD LOOKS FAMILIAR. COULD HE BE HIRO?
POLICE STATION
PLEASE, I BEG YOU
HELP ME FIND HIRO!
board call 110
YOU MUST ADD MORE PATROLS TO THE HARBORS!
IF WE DON'T ACT FAST, HIRO WILL BE TAKEN TO ARABIA!
わあ わあ
What's the current situation?
MANAGER KAZAMA.
PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, LITTLE DADDY!
<WAH
<yank>

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ...?!
I'M SO SORRY FROM NOW ON, LET ME DO THE EXPLAINING ♡
WHAT COULD YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE A MESS LIKE THIS?
WAHHH! MOMMY MAKI!
THE THREE OF US HAVE BEEN BEST FRIENDS FOR A LONG TIME
FOSTER CHILD?
WE'RE LOOKING FOR A BOY, HIS FOSTER CHILD WHO'S BEEN LIVING WITH HIM
HIRO?

THAT CHILD IS THE SON OF ANOTHER BEST FRIEND OF OURS
THREE YEARS AGO, HE SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED, LEAVING ONLY HIS CHILD BEHIND
THAT'S WHEN THE THREE OF US BEGAN TAKING CARE OF HIM.
IT'S 'CAUSE I'M USELESS.
I DIDN'T WATCH HIM WELL ENOUGH
PLEASE HELP ME FIND HIM!
BUT, THIS AFTERNOON, HE SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED
I'M SO AFRAID THAT HIRO'LL DISAPPEAR FOR GOOD!

WHAT'LL I DO IF HIRO JUST DISAPPEARS LIKE HIS PARENTS?
MANAGER KAZAMA
DON'T WORRY, MANAGER KAZAMA
WE'LL SPLIT UP AND SEARCH FOR HIM.
I DON'T WANNA GO HOME!
WHO TOLD THEM TO LIE TO ME?
DON'T TALK LIKE THAT
ARE YOU HUNGRY?
GRUMBLE
YEAH


YOU WANT ME TO FEED YOU?
YES!
AHHHHH!
HUH?
YOUR TECHNIQUE SUCKS.
I KNOW WHAT "VANISH" MEANS.
IT MEANS TO TOTALLY DISAPPEAR

HIRO..
IT CAN'T BE SEEN ANYMORE
WHEN SOMETHING DISAPPEARED,
I DON'T WANT IT!
DON'T WANT!
I DO
UNDER-STAND!
NO, YOU'RE STILL YOUNG
THEY'RE NOT TELLING YOU FOR YOUR OWN GOOD
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
WHY AREN'T I ALLOWED TO KNOW? JUST BECAUSE I'M STILL YOUNG?
CAN'T
SEE ANYMORE.
IF I CAN'T SEE ANYMORE, THEN I CAN'T.
WHY COULDN'T THEY JUST TELL ME THAT?

WHY AREN'T
THEY...
...TREATING ME...
...AS PART OF THE FAMILY?!
IT'S TOO MUCH!

EEEK
Hey..
Excuse me.. I'm so sorry..
Wuash Wuash
HIRO
IDIOTS, IDIOTS!
ばたばた
<Flap flap>
わああああ
<Wahhhh>
THEY'RE ALL LIARS!
I HATE THEM ALL!
SNORE

Ugh...
<wail>
You're so useless!
DON'T CRY WHILE GRABBING ME!
MY HIRO!
STILL NO TRACE OF HIM.
WHERE DID HIRO GO?
WHO'S THE LADY?
Mommy Maki is so strong...
WELL, LET'S ALL RETURN TO THE HOUSE OF THE SAKURA FIRST
HUH?
rustle
WHO IS IT? SOMEONE'S THERE!
WHAT?!

ここのつ
REALLY?
AN ARABIAN MAN?!
IT'S TOO DARK. I CAN'T SEE VERY CLEARLY, BUT IT PROBABLY IS!
UH...
ドドドド
RE-TURN HIRO TO ME!!
MSN
AH HA HA HA HA
THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD
THERE IS NO USE TRYING TO ESCAPE!

WO HO HO HO!
I'VE CAUGHT YOU!
Wheeze
Wheeze
I'M COMING!
Walk
Wheeze
FLASH
HUH?
IT'S YOU?!
LO-LO-LO-LONG TIME NO SEE...
Wheeze
Wheeze
TAKEDA?!
YOU'RE THE CULPRIT?
WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?
Kelly
Lucy
TAKEDA IS THE ARABIAN MAN?
THERE WAS AN ARABIAN MAN HERE BEFORE...
HE SAID TO ME, "PLEASE ESCORT HIM BACK HOME." DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

WHERE IS THE ARABIAN MAN NOW?
HUH?
HIRO!
WHA—? WHERE IS THIS PLACE? HOME?
HIRO! ARE YOU INJURED?
WHERE IS THAT GUY?
THAT FELLOW?
I WAS GOING TO FIND MOMMY MAKI BY MYSELF,
BUT THEN THAT GUY CAME WITH ME,
AND THEN WE GOT LOST
THE GUY YOU'RE REFERRING TO ... DID HE WEAR A CLOTH ON HIS HEAD?

SMACK
YEP!
AND HE ALSO FED ME!
?!
HAVEN'T I ALREADY TOLD YOU!
NEVER FOLLOW STRANGERS!
Manager Kazama!
...!
MANAGER KAZAMA HIT HIM?!

BE.
HIC
BE-CAUSE
HOW COULD YOU BE SO THOUGHT-LESS?
EVERYONE WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU!
YOU GUYS NEVER TOLD ME...
...ABOUT MY DADDY AND MOMMY...
HE AND I WENT TO THE ADDRESS WRITTEN ON THE PHOTO.
THERE, WE MET ANOTHER PERSON.
HE TOLD ME ABOUT MY REAL DADDY AND MOMMY

WHY DID EVERYONE LIE TO ME?
IS IT BECAUSE I'M NOT RELATED TO YOU BY BLOOD?
SO YOU ALL DISLIKE ME?
HE SAID THEY VANISHED!
DID MOMMY AND DADDY VANISH ?
Uh!
...BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T LIKE ME?
Wah!
THEY...
WHY...
..!

I'M SORRY, HIRO.
I'M REALLY SORRY
NOT TELLING YOU THE TRUTH
WAS DEFINITELY NOT BECAUSE WE DON'T LIKE YOU
YOUR DADDY AND MOMMY VANISHING
HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, EITHER

I'VE BEEN WAITING ALL THIS TIME, TOO.
WAITING FOR YOUR DADDY AND MOMMY.
THEY DIDN'T VANISH
THEY WILL RETURN.
REALLY?
REALLY!
THAT'S WHY, THIS WHOLE TIME...
NO, ACTUALLY, I LIKE YOU A LOT, HIRO.
CAN YOU FORGIVE LITTLE DADDY?
FROM TODAY ON,
JUST LIKE BEFORE, LIVE TOGETHER WITH ME AND TREAT ME AS YOUR DADDY, OK?

REALLY?
THAT'S...
...GREAT...
NATURALLY!
THEN, WILL YOU STILL FEED ME?
I WILL
I'D STILL CHOOSE...
...MY FAVORITE LITTLE DADDY!
I FEEL THAT...
...IF I HAD TO PICK ANYONE TO FEED ME,

Please remember that I'm the mommy
THAT'S GREAT! NOW WE'RE ALL RELIEVED
So nothing happened?
I'm so sorry!
THIS KAZAMA, HE'S PRETTY GOOD WHEN HE NEEDS TO BE
Weird. Where's the boss?
DONG
Huh? That means they're already married?!
EVEN THOUGH THAT MAN IS USELESS, PLEASE TAKE CARE OF HIM!
AND, ALSO
THEN IT'S TIME FOR US TO GO.
We have our own families too
THAT ARABIAN MAN
WHO WAS HE?
I'M SORRY WE TROUBLED YOU ALL

HIRO GOT HOME SAFE AND SOUND!
.....BRO!
REALLY? THAT'S GREAT.....!
LET'S HEAD HOME!
Wahhh! I want to sleep! What's the time...?
BI
DI
DU
DUM
BRO!
THIS MESSAGE WAS SENT BY NINA.
I THINK IM BETTER OFF LEAVING FOR SPAIN. IM SORRY ABOUT ALL THE TROUBLE IVE CAUSED U. THANK U AGEHA. -NINA
----END----

THIS
WHY?! NINA!
WAIT A SEC, I'LL WRITE BACK
BEEP
"LIVING THERE WILL ONLY BRING TROUBLE TO EVERYONE."
"I'M ALREADY DISLIKED."
WHY?
NO ONE DISLIKES HER.
WE AGREED TO SOLVE THIS MATTER TOGETHER. THAT'S WHY WE LET HER GO HOME!

I THOUGHT FOR SURE NINA WOULD WANT TO COME BACK WHEN SHE SAW THE MESSAGE
THAT FOOD CONTAINED THE MESSAGE I WANTED TO GIVE HER
IN THE END, THE FOOD I MADE NEVER REACHED NINA
SO, WHY?
BUT,
IT GOT EATEN BY ME!
THAT BREAD
IT DID REACH NINA,

LITTLE AGEHA BUTTERFLY,
THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS YOU'RE NOT AWARE OF
THAT'S SO GIRLISH!
WHAT AN IDEA
HIDING THE KEY TO THE HOUSE OF THE SAKURA INSIDE THE BREAD?
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU CAN'T REMEMBER.
I WON'T LET YOU *NOT* REMEMBER

Katydid
Panarama Suzu
Sidney silver_deeds
Pollux wall flower
xengie Flump
mayairy-
active
happybobo321
Cream Puffs eunhYe
Freshy funnypages
Galletita gorelab ink
keppim p00k Lynite
Leen-chan Micho
Luppy
MegKF
terracannon876
riseabove77 JLindgren
Medea Saga pryxir
sekushibijin84
Sophendo | bot
Lighter
admins
barbapapa
flying robots
bukuwawa petr
mangauniverse
Vanderguard
jojo da crow
Friends
Forever
vio55555
Digitalr Death
kalekala cracken
sioc shadowfoxx
cjd fooJin
Levin
super
active
chiaki
dahippo
toshirodragon
narwhaltortellini
icassop Kavic
Lui
retired
Ymgael Yoyo
Yehiko Haisa
Kimheami
Knights4
Kakaro-chain
Kyuuei Lia
Sekiehun chaktijoeleann
silverbell1979
Michiler
Mary Gleason
MaxMaxMax Oyling
Remy mymdrx Nomad_Saul
Moyday Mikuru Moonies Tiger
SakuraMilan SerapHimWed Tys
LevanterFewerXII Magnum SkriderX
Sukeyukkey Sunny Shikure Spud
Skyarrul830 Tragicdragdem
Usagiina Vanessa Twinpop
Tetachen Vivisumeko
vis-a-vis

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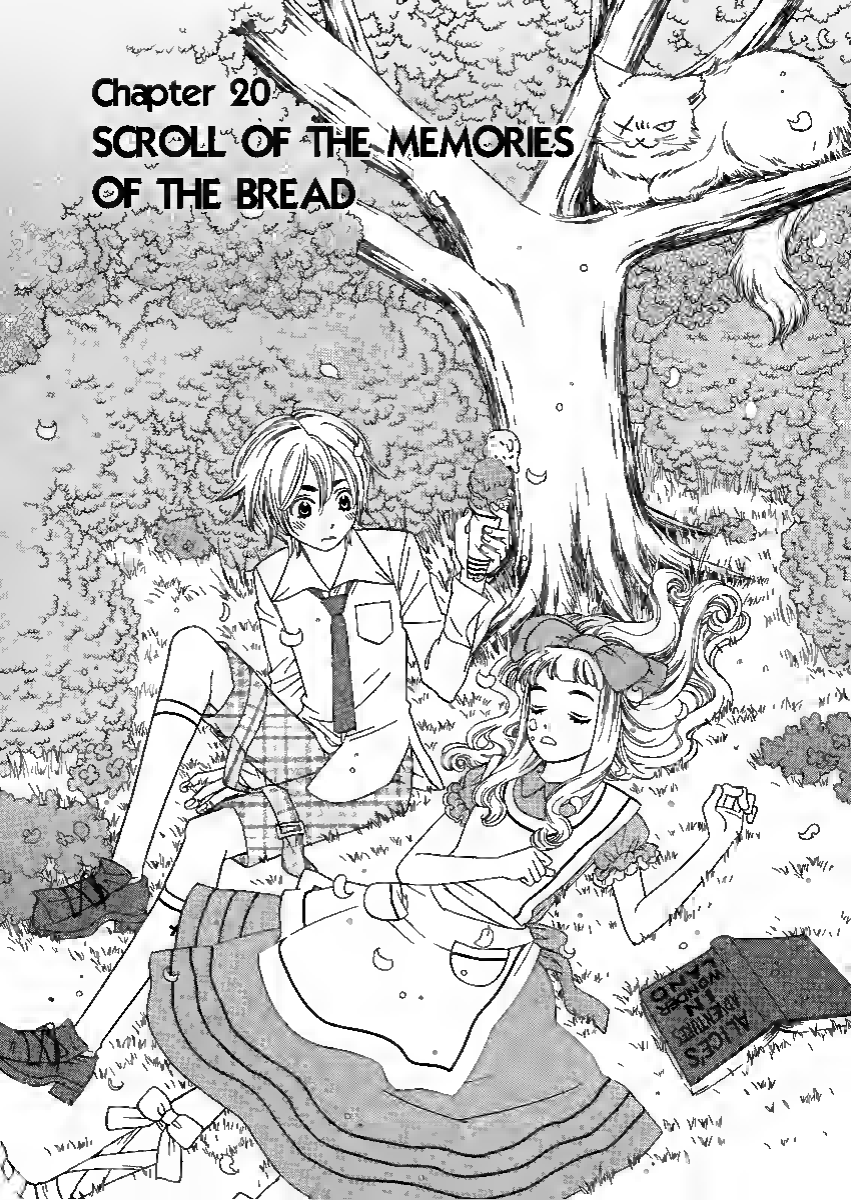
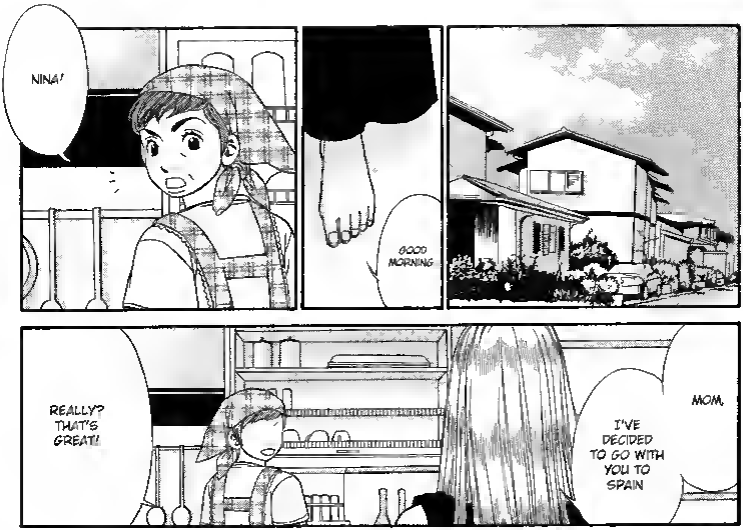
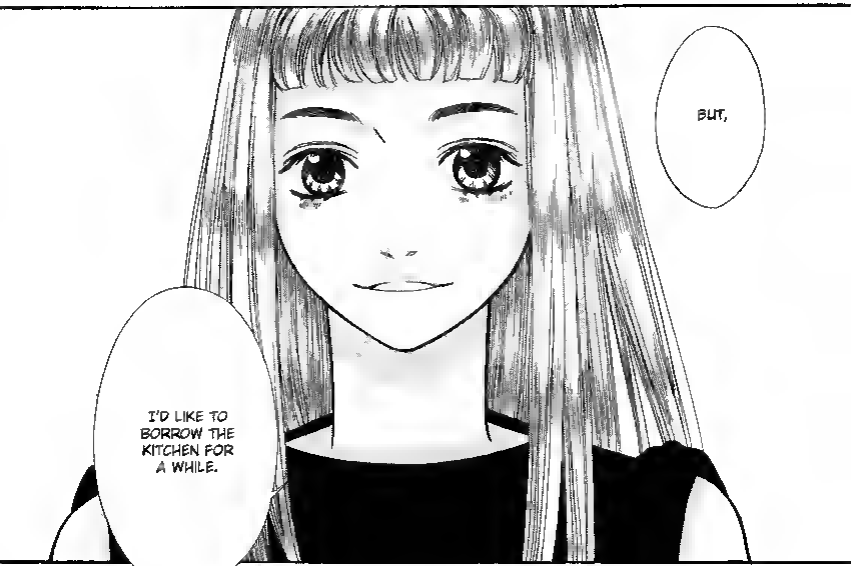
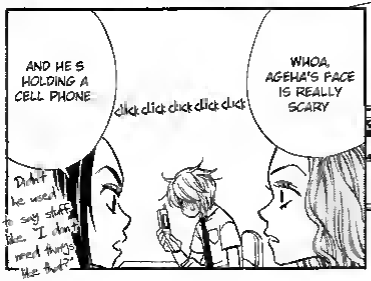
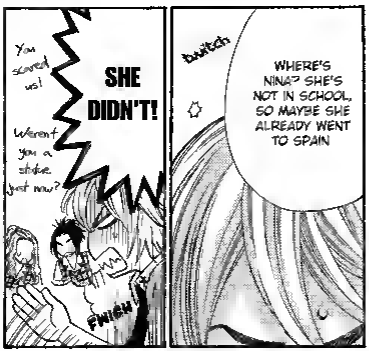

Chapter 20
SCROLL OF THE MEMORIES
OF THE BREAD
ALICE'S
ADVENTURES
IN
WONDER
LAND


NINA!
GOOD MORNING
MOM,
I'VE DECIDED TO GO WITH YOU TO SPAIN
REALLY? THAT'S GREAT!

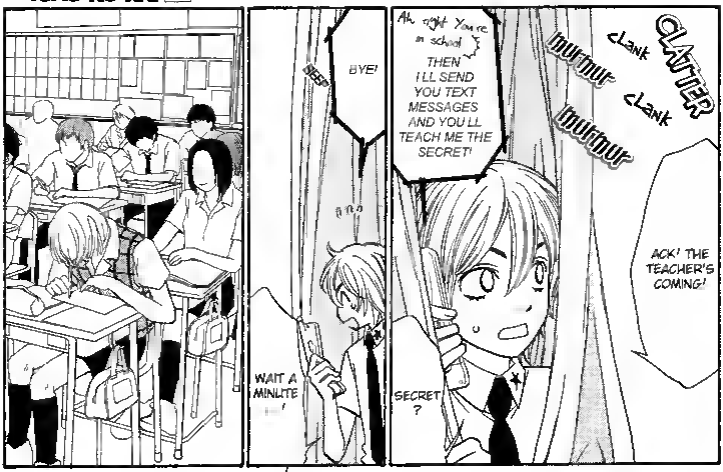

BUT,
I'D LIKE TO BORROW THE KITCHEN FOR A WHILE.


AND HE'S HOLDING A CELL PHONE
click click click click click
WHOA, AGEHA'S FACE IS REALLY SCARY
Didn't he used to say stuff like "I don't need things like that?"

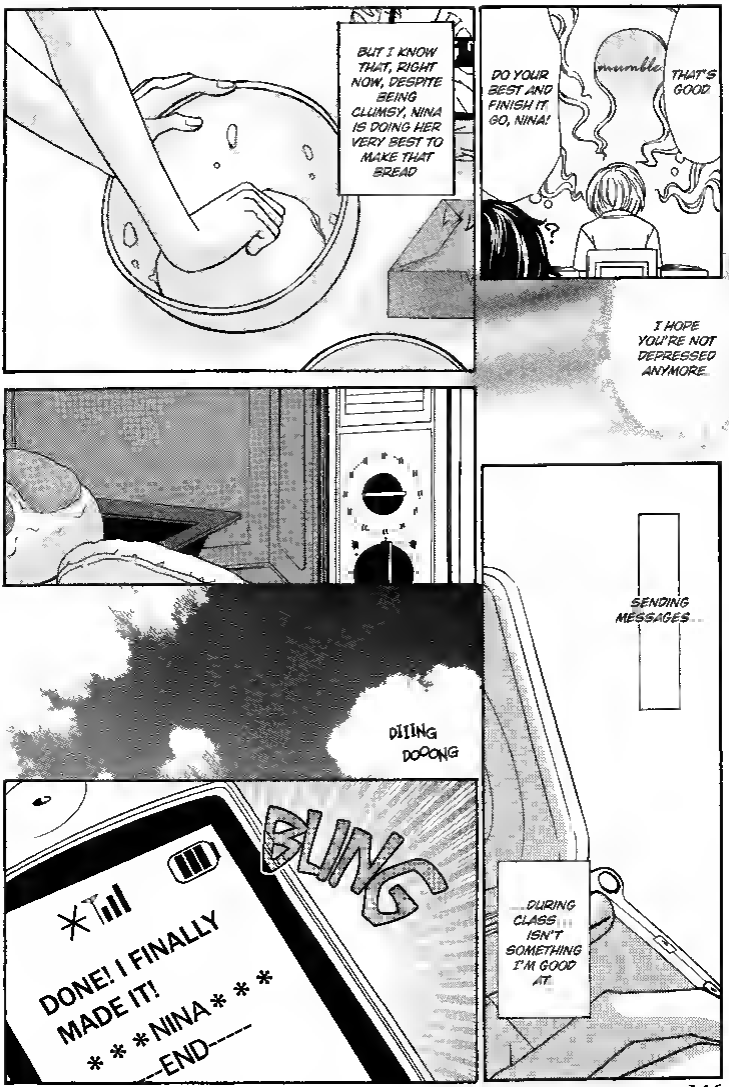

You scared us!
SHE DIDN'T!
Weren't you a stroke just now?
FWISH
twitch
WHERE'S NINA? SHE'S NOT IN SCHOOL, SO MAYBE SHE ALREADY WENT TO SPAIN

BEFORE LEAVING FOR SPAIN,
LET'S ALL...
HAVE ONE FINAL DINNER TOGETHER.

BRRRING
WHA—! WHAT'S THIS RING TONE?
BRRRING
WILL IT REALLY STOP IF I PRESS ANY BUTTON?
BUNCH
BUNCH
GRRRR
I'll have to call them after I send it
THE POINT OF THIS PHONE IS TO HAVE THE ABILITY TO MAKE CALLS ANYWHERE, SO WHY DOES IT NEED SO MANY FUNCTIONS?!
GRR
I'll be pretending she can't see them
Ok, let somethin really happen
GRR
DON'T TELL ME SHE ALREADY WENT TO SPAIN?!
DAMN I'M SENDING A TON OF TEXT MESSAGES TO NINA BUT SHE DOESN'T RESPOND TO ANY OF THEM
That's my cell phone
Alone→
Vibrate
Beep
HOW LUCKY THAT YOU PICKED UP! I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU!
CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO MAKE THAT BREAD YOU GAVE ME YESTERDAY?
WHAT HAPPENED ?!
AH IT'S AGEHA!
THUMP
THUMP
Right
Right
EXCUSE ME IS AGEHA THERE?
NINA?!
YESTERDAY YOU GOT THE BREAD FROM OPERATION SHIBU-BATTLE?
BREAD ?!
I HAVE THE RECIPE AND INSTRUCTIONS HERE BUT I STILL CAN'T MAKE IT RIGHT


CLATTER
clank
murmur
clank
murmur
ACK! THE TEACHER'S COMING!
Ah, right. You're in school.
THEN I'LL SEND YOU TEXT MESSAGES AND YOU'LL TEACH ME THE SECRET!
BEEP
BYE!
WAIT A MINUTE
SECRET?

I STILL HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS I WANT TO ASK HER
Sorry Teacher
WHATEVER I'LL ASK HER AFTER CLASS
SO, SHE DID
GET THE BREAD
NINA, SHE
SHE'S REALLY GOING TO MAKE THE BREAD BY HERSELF?
THE FACT THAT SHE WANTS TO MAKE IT
MEANS
IT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES


BUT I KNOW THAT, RIGHT NOW, DESPITE BEING CLUMSY, NINA IS DOING HER VERY BEST TO MAKE THAT BREAD
DO YOUR BEST AND FINISH IT GO, NINA!
mumble
THAT'S GOOD
?
I HOPE YOU'RE NOT DEPRESSED ANYMORE
SENDING MESSAGES...
...DURING CLASS... ISN'T SOMETHING I'M GOOD AT.
DIING DOOONG
BLING
DONE! I FINALLY MADE IT!
NINA
---END---

THANKS A LOT!
BECAUSE YOU WERE THERE I FELT LIKE I COULD DO IT!
Good Job
THAT'S WONDERFUL!
I'LL CONTACT YOU WHEN I ARRIVE IN SPAIN GOODBYE!
HUH?
BAM
HEY, ARIHARA. SCHOOL'S OVER
Not listening at all huh...
Now?
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO GO?!

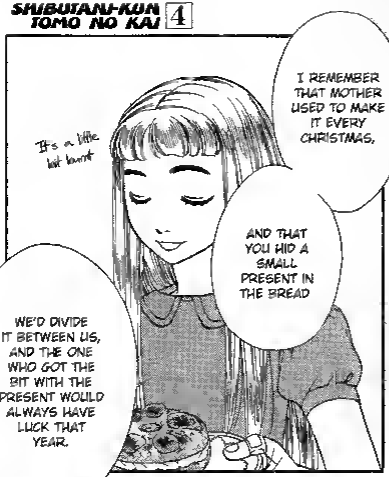
AHHH ♡
COME IN
AHHH.♡
WHAT'S WRONG, AGEHA?
Welcome back
I'm back
JUST WHAT-EVER...
IS IT THE THING WITH NINA?
This can't be good.
SO, SHE DECIDED TO GO TO SPAIN?
LOOKS LIKE IT
BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHY DID SHE DECIDE SO SUDDENLY?
IT IS SUDDEN

BUT IF SHE MADE HER DECISION AFTER HER PARENTS MADE UP IT COULD BE A GOOD DECISION FOR HER
...?
IF I KNEW IT'D BE LIKE THIS, I'D HAVE CONFESSED TO HER ALREADY
HM...?
What's this?
I TOOK THEM FROM THE RESTAURANT YESTERDAY
DEPRESSED
LITTLE AGEHA BUTTERFLY!
I'LL GIVE YOU THIS, SO PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!
HIRO THOSE ARE FREE DISPOSABLE CHOPSTICKS RIGHT?
You should give him something better
THEY'RE NOT THE SAME ONES WE HAVE AT HOME
Yoshino
LOOK, THERE'S A SAKURA PETAL PRINT ON IT!

SLAM
ALL RIGHT, THIS IS GOOD
THIS IS...
THE RESTAURANT YOU WENT TO WITH THE MYSTERIOUS ARABIAN MAN?

LET THE DINNER BEGIN
OH, LET ME GET IT
NINA, WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN THE KITCHEN ALL DAY?
NINA FINALLY AGREED TO COME WITH ME TO SPAIN. WHAT A RELIEF!
SO YOU SHOULD WISH US LUCK AND HAPPINESS IN OUR NEW LIVES.
IT WAS THIS.

FATHER,
MOTHER,
DO YOU STILL REMEMBER THIS?
AH...


It's a little bit burnt
I REMEMBER THAT MOTHER USED TO MAKE IT EVERY CHRISTMAS,
AND THAT YOU HID A SMALL PRESENT IN THE BREAD
WE'D DIVIDE IT BETWEEN US, AND THE ONE WHO GOT THE BIT WITH THE PRESENT WOULD ALWAYS HAVE LUCK THAT YEAR.

THIS BRINGS BACK MEMORIES

I USED TO MAKE THIS BREAD FOR YOU WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE

YOU STILL REMEMBER?

THAT'S GREAT!
SO EVERYONE DOES REMEMBER!
I KNOW WE CAN'T GO BACK TO HOW IT WAS BEFORE,
BUT THE FACT THAT WE ONCE HAD HAPPY TIMES LIKE THAT WILL NEVER CHANGE
...

NINA...
A FEW DAYS AGO, I WAS BEING SELFISH AND SAID I DIDN'T WANT TO GO. I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT
BECAUSE WE ALL STILL HAVE MEMORIES OF THIS BREAD
NINA,
IS THAT REALLY ALL RIGHT?
SO, THAT'S WHY I HAVE THE COURAGE TO GO TO SPAIN

IN YOUR HEART, DON'T YOU WANT TO RETURN TO THAT HAPPY FAMILY?
DING DONG
I WONDER WHO IT IS, COMING THIS LATE
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...?
HUH...?
EXCUSE ME, WHO IS IT?
I'M SORRY TO IMPOSE AT THIS LATE HOUR
BUT DOES MR. HYUGA LIVE HERE?
MY SURNAME IS KAZAMA

IS THAT YOUR FRIEND?
STIFFEN
IGNORE HIM...!
HOW CAN WE DO THAT?
<sound>
STEP
STEP
HEY!
TWISH
MEOW
WHERE DID THAT CHILD COME FROM?
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
YOU AGAIN!

WHA—?!
FORGIVE US FOR DISTURBING YOU!
THANKS TO THE PAIR OF CHOPSTICKS HIRO TOOK, WE WENT TO CONFIRM SOMETHING WITH THE RESTAURANT.
What's with that get up?
Since they said the names of their latest guests.
Yoshino
THE ONE WHO WAS WITH HIRO YESTERDAY!!
AND THE MYSTERIOUS ARABIAN MAN..
...ARE ACTUALLY THE SAME PERSON!
Yoshino
THE MAN WEARING THE ARABIAN COSTUME IS NOT AN ARAB. HE'S JAPANESE!

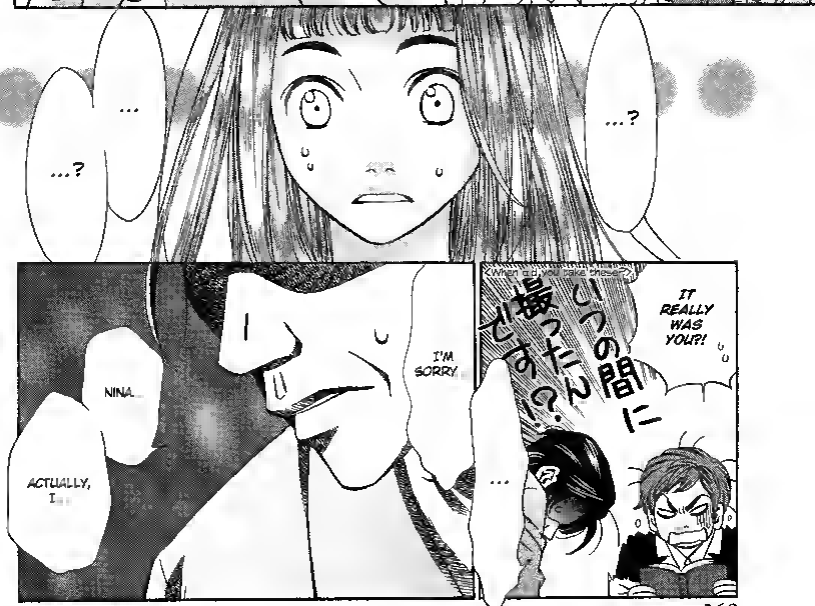
ヒソ
AND HE IS...
...NINA'S FATHER!
MR. KOJI HYUGA!
YOU KNOW!
I MADE UP WITH LITTLE DADDY!
THANK YOU!
HA HA! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I WAS WITH HIM YESTERDAY!
What? What's an Arabian woman?
HE HAS THE SAME SMELL OF SMOKE!

HUH ...
REALLY?!
That stiff-looking uncle is the Arabian one?
Ugh
...SO SORRY!
I'M...

NADESHIKO, CAN YOU BRING ME MY SUITCASE FROM THE CAR?
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
Don't tell me you committed some crime?!
Carelessly Confused
SHOCK
Depressed
...THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT THESE THINGS.

I WAS ACCOMPANYING HIRO BECAUSE I WAS WORRIED THAT A LITTLE BOY LIKE HIM WAS WALKING AROUND ALONE.
I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD CAUSE EVERYONE SO MUCH TROUBLE I'M SO SORRY!
THIS ONE HERE! IT WAS ALL FLOWY YESTERDAY!
I BOUGHT THAT ON A BUSINESS TRIP. I SAW IT AND LIKED IT....
AH...!
THEN, WHY DO YOU WEAR THAT GET-UP AND SNEAK AROUND LIKE THAT?
THAT'S BECAUSE...
THESE ARE...
...PHOTOS OF NINA!
NO, HIRO!
WHOA EVERYONE, LOOK!
WHOOSH
rustle rustle

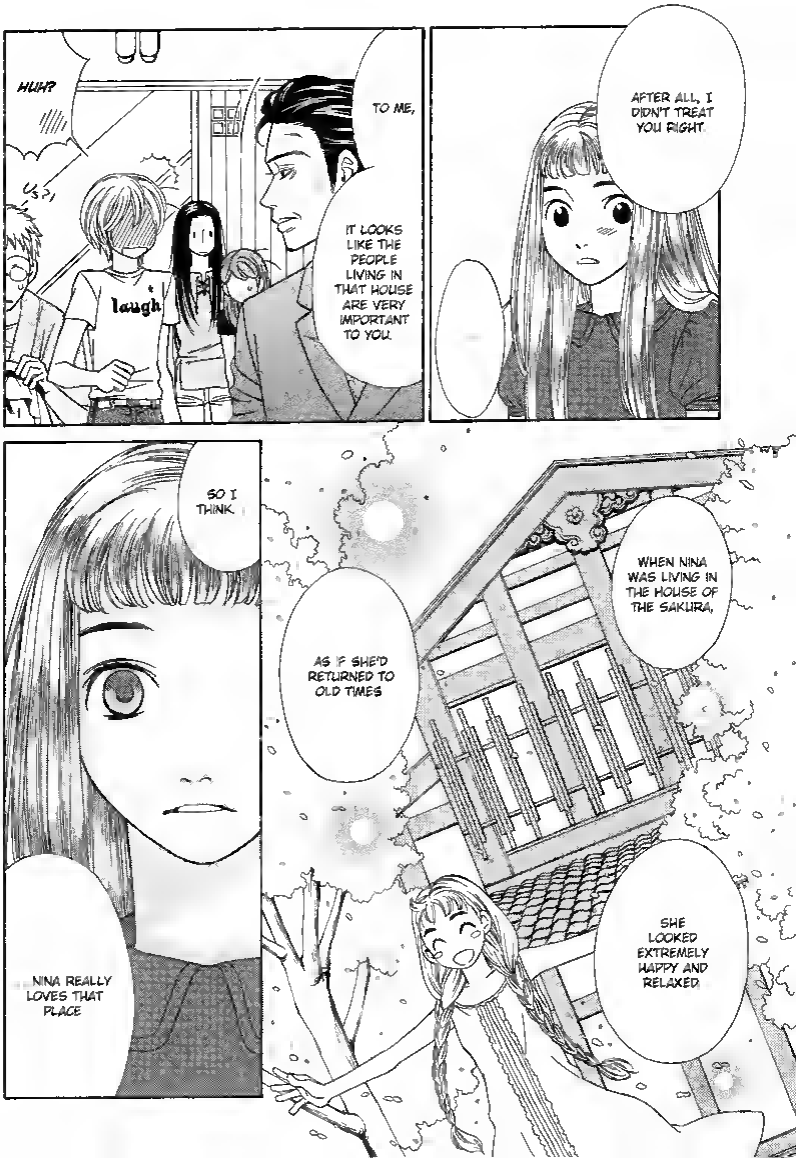
WOW!
NOT ONLY RECENT PHOTOS THERE ARE PHOTOS OF WHEN SHE WAS LITTLE, TOO!
MY GOD, THEY ALL ARE!
WOW!
I wanna see...
There are shots of the band's latest performance, too!
SUPER CUTE!


...
...?
...?
IT REALLY WAS YOU?!
I'M SORRY.
NINA...
ACTUALLY, I...

(crept out)
I'VE BEEN SECRETLY TAKING PHOTOS OF YOU.
S-SINCE WHEN...? ALWAYS ...?
I THOUGHT YOU NEVER CARED FOR ME
STARTED AROUND THE TIME YOU GRADUATED FROM PRIMARY SCHOOL
THAT'S RIGHT. RUMORS STARTED TO SPREAD AROUND THE SAME TIME NINA MOVED INTO THE HOUSE OF THE SAKURA!
NO WONDER I SAW HIM IN SCHOOL.
THAT'S GREAT! THE TARGET WASN'T HIRO!
I understood now. You were watching over Nina.
♥
Phew
ACTUALLY, I ALWAYS WANTED TO TALK TO YOU,
BUT I FELT GUILTY ABOUT THE FAMILY SITUATION
SO, I WAS SCARED TO.

THAT'S REALLY SICK
I'D BEEN TAKING YOUR PICTURE FOR YEARS! I'M SO SORRY, NINA!
...AND BEFORE I KNEW IT,
TIME FLEW BY...
THAT'S WHEN
I THOUGHT THAT IF I WAS UNABLE TO TALK TO YOU, TAKING PHOTOS WOULD BE A GOOD ALTERNATIVE, TOO
HUH...?
I'VE ALWAYS LIKED TO TAKE PHOTOS OF OTHERS
NEVER NOTICED...
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY PHOTO WAS BEING TAKEN, TOO.
...AH!
I ALWAYS THOUGHT THERE WAS A SPIRIT FOLLOWING ME. DON'T TELL ME...
And the one who looked like an old woman...
NO WAY!
UWOAH!
THAT WAS PROBABLY ME...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
Your face is deformed!

NINA
I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT I DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY TO YOU
AND THAT I DIDN'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO
BUT AFTER I MET THAT CHILD,
?
I SUDDENLY REALIZED THAT PARENTS CAN TROUBLE THEIR CHILDREN BY BEING SELFISH
IF YOU DON'T EXPLAIN THINGS TO THEM, IT'LL ONLY WORRY THEM
I THINK... YOU DON'T LIKE ME


HUH?
US?!
laugh
TO ME,
IT LOOKS LIKE THE PEOPLE LIVING IN THAT HOUSE ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO YOU.
AFTER ALL, I DIDN'T TREAT YOU RIGHT.
SO I THINK
NINA REALLY LOVES THAT PLACE
AS IF SHE'D RETURNED TO OLD TIMES
WHEN NINA WAS LIVING IN THE HOUSE OF THE SAKURA,
SHE LOOKED EXTREMELY HAPPY AND RELAXED

NINA, ARE YOU SURE WHAT YOU'VE DECIDED— COMES FROM THE HEART?
WHAT POINT IS THERE IN SAYING SUCH THINGS NOW?
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO LET THIS HAPPEN, LEAVING ON YOUR OWN...!
NINA NEEDS PARENTS TO TAKE CARE OF HER.
THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO THAT—WHO CAN WATCH OVER HER—IS ME!
DON'T FORCE YOURSELF TO GO TO SPAIN WITH YOUR MOTHER
I DON'T OBJECT TO YOU LIVING IN THE HOUSE OF THE SAKURA
NADE-SHIKO,
YOU NEED TO FACE THE TRUTH
THIS HOUSE IS NOT HER WHOLE WORLD ANYMORE

FOR EXAMPLE,
IN SCHOOL, THERE'S A GUY WHO TREATS HER REALLY WELL,
MAKING HER DELICIOUS PACKED LUNCHES ALL THE TIME.
NO WAY.
HE'S TALKING ABOUT ME!
HE SAW THAT
IF SHE WANTS A PACKED LUNCH,
I CAN MAKE ONE!
drip

W-WHAT'S WRONG?
NINA?
HUH?
N-
NOTHING AT ALL.
IT'S JUST...
I...
I'M A STUPID, USELESS CHILD.
I CAN ONLY RELY ON ALL OF YOU!
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING.

IT'S ALL BECAUSE I'M SO USELESS.
AND IT WAS BECAUSE OF ME...
...THAT YOU TWO HAD A DIVORCE, RIGHT?
...THAT RANGE HATES ME NOW!
WHAT?
NINA, YOU MET RANGE?
YEAH
AND HE SAID THAT I WAS ANNOYING
AND THAT... HE... REALLY HATES ME...

THAT'S WHY I CAN'T GO BACK TO THAT PLACE ANY-MORE...
RANGE!

AGEHA, WELCOME BACK
I WANT TO EAT! ♡
LET ME ASK YOU SOME-THING
WHAT DID YOU SAY TO NINA?
WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY WHAT YOU SAID?
OH, MY, MY YOU ALREADY FOUND OUT.
NOTHING SPECIAL
I ONLY TOLD HER THE TRUTH
..'CAUSE I GOT TIRED OF IT. SO I SAID BYE-BYE

PUNCH
I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT PEOPLE LIKE HER
MEOW!
IT HURTS! OUCH
HISS
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO NOW?
A MODEL'S FACE IS HIS LIVELIHOOD
I'M REALLY STUPID
TO THINK YOU'D HAVE SOME LIKEABLE POINTS
I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
I'M LEAVING!
laugh

DO YOU REMEMBER THE THINGS THAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST?
DIDN'T WE HAVE A DEAL? IF YOU HAD REMEMBERED WHILE LIVING IN THIS HOUSE, I'D STOP DOING WEIRD THINGS TO YOU!
HEH
THEN LET ME ASK YOU,
TO HELL WITH THAT DEAL!
I NEVER WANTED TO REMEMBER ANYTHING RELATED TO YOU!!
BESIDES, IT'S PROBABLY NOTHING GOOD!

LATER!
IS THAT SO?
AH!
AGEHA.
THANKS FOR TAKING CARE OF ME DURING THE TIME I LIVED HERE!
TAP
TAP
TAP
PLEASE SEND THE REST OF MY STUFF TO ME LATER!
CALM DOWN AND LISTEN TO ME
Yaus

I REGRET EVER LISTENING TO HIM

Katydid
Panarama Suzu
Sidney silver_deeds
Pollux wall flower
xengie Flump
mayairy-
active
happybobo321
Cream Puffs eunhYe
Freshy funnypages
Galletita gorelab ink
keppim p00k Lynite
Leen-chan Micho
Luppy
MegKF
terracannon876
riseabove77 JLindgren
Medea Saga pryxir
sekushibijin84
Sophendo | bot
Lighter
admins
barbapapa
flying robots
bukuwawa petr
mangauniverse
Vanderguard
jojo da crow
Friends
Forever
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Digitalr Death
kalekala cracken
sioc shadowfoxx
cjd fooJin
Levin
super
active
chiaki
dahippo
toshirodragon
narwhaltortellini
icassop Kavic
Lui
retired
Ymgael Yoyo
Yehiko Haisa
Kimheami
Knights4
Kakaro-chain
Kyuuei Lia
Sekiehun chaktijoeleann
silverbell1979
Michiler
Mary Gleason
MaxMaxMax Oyling
Remy mymdrx Nomad_Saul
Moyday Mikuru Moonies Tiger
SakuraMilan SerapHimWed Tys
LevanterFewerXII Magnum SkriderX
Sukeyukkey Sunny Shikure Spud
Skyarrul830 Tragicdragdem
Usagiina Vanessa Twinpop
Tetachen Vivisumeko
vis-a-vis

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